# tsure × dure CHILDREN

02

Toshiya Wakabayashi

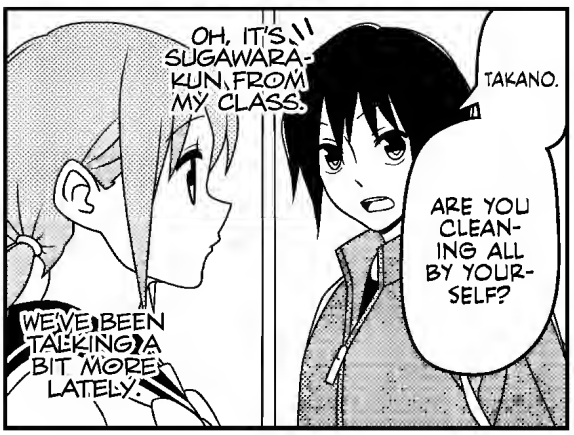
# Tsure × Dure CHILDREN 02

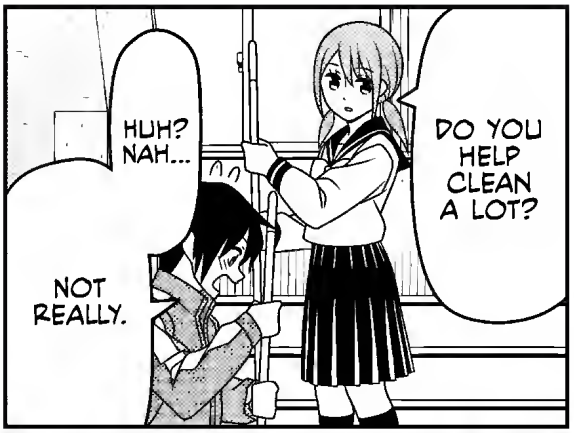
Toshiya Wakabayashi

contents


| | |
|---|---|
| 18_ **Cleaning Duty** | 3 |
| 19_ **Let's Make Sure** | 9 |
| 20_ **Reply** | 15 |
| 21_ **Romantic Comedy** | 21 |
| 22_ **You're Dazzling** | 27 |
| 23_ **Dictatorship** | 33 |
| 24_ **Siren** | 39 |
| 25_ **We Don't Need Women** | 45 |
| 26_ **Coward** | 61 |
| 27_ **Childhood Friends** | 67 |
| 28_ **Wounded Angel** | 73 |
| 29_ **Re:** | 79 |
| 30_ **I'm Watching You From Afar** | 85 |
| 31_ **Friction** | 91 |
| 32_ **Advice** | 107 |

# Cleaning Duty

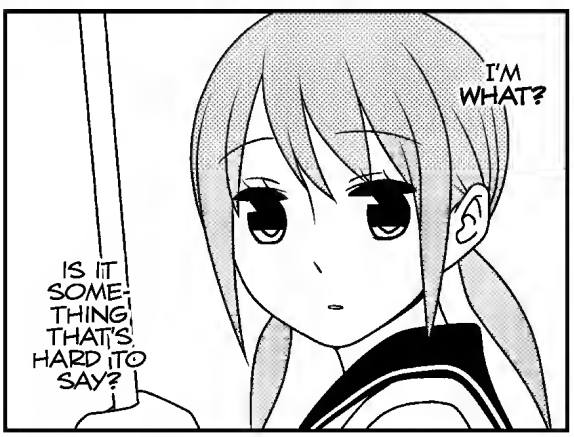



DO YOU HELP CLEAN A LOT?
HUH? NAH...
NOT REALLY.

HUH?! YOU'VE GOT CLEANING DUTY, SUGA-YAN?!
PRAC-TICE IS ABOUT TO START!
I KNOW! I'LL BE THERE IN A SEC!

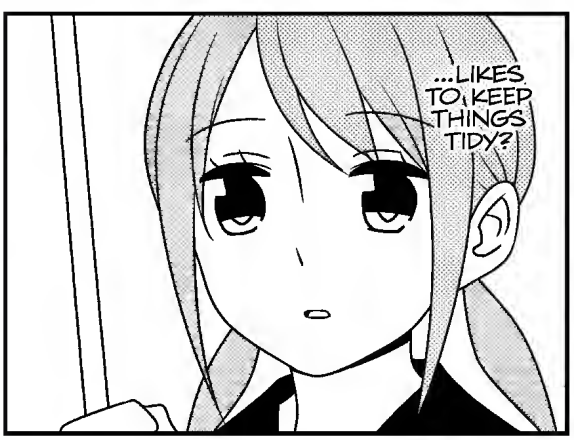
THIS IS JUST BE-CAUSE, WELL...
YOU'RE ...

SORRY, SUGA-WARA-KUN.
IT'S FINE.
I JUST WANNA HELP.
IF YOU HAVE CLUB, THEN...


I'M WHAT?
IS IT SOME-THING THAT'S HARD TO SAY?

HE'S GOING SO FAR TO HELP ME.
COULD IT BE THAT SUGA-WARA-KUN...

DOES HE MEAN...
WAIT:
...I'M BAD AT CLEANING?!

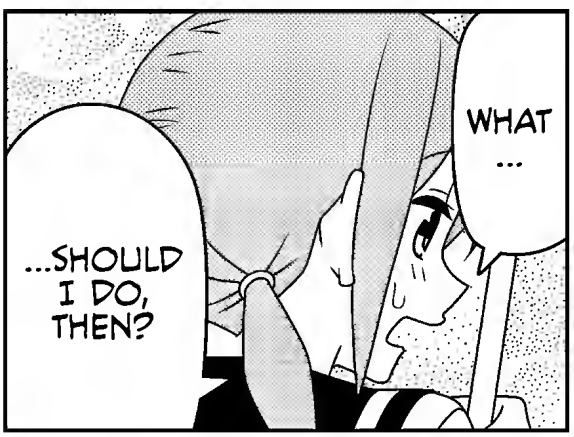

...LIKES TO KEEP THINGS TIDY?

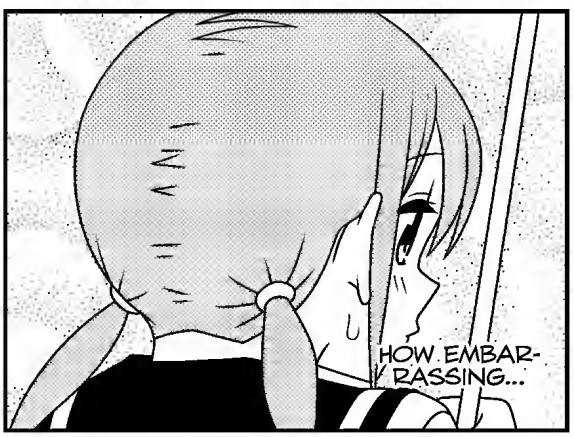
UMM...
I DIDN'T MEAN ANY-THING WEIRD BY THAT, Y'KNOW!
IF YOU'RE BOTHERED BY IT, THEN I APOLOGIZE.

SORRY ...
I'LL BE QUIET AND GET TO WORK.
HUH?
SURE...

NO...
I'M SORRY FOR NOT REALIZING.

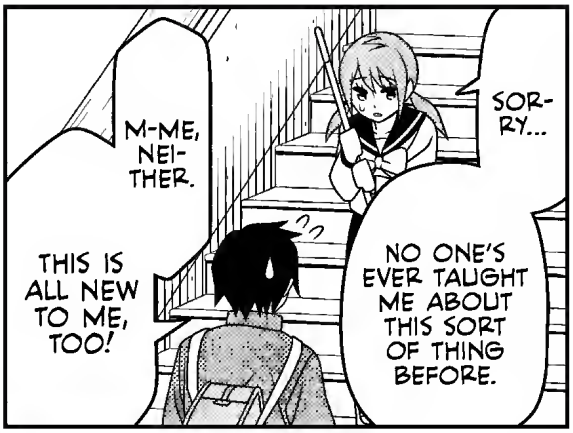
...?


WHAT ...
...SHOULD I DO, THEN?


I-I-V-I-I
HOW EMBAR-RASSING...

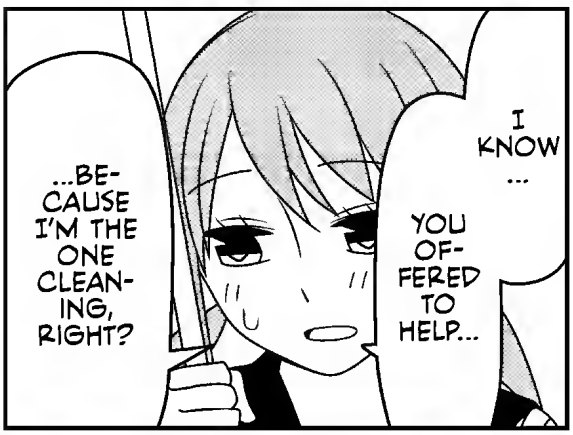
BA DU'M
HUH?!

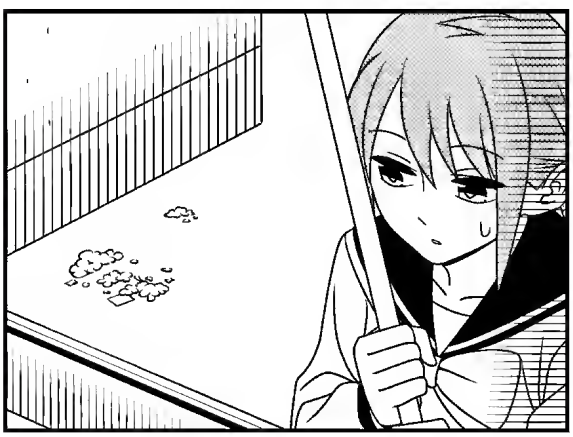
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP


SOR-
RY...
NO ONE'S EVER TAUGHT ME ABOUT THIS SORT OF THING BEFORE.
M-ME, NEI-
THER.
THIS IS ALL NEW TO ME, TOO!

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?
ER, ABOUT WHAT? HUH?!
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO PRETEND.

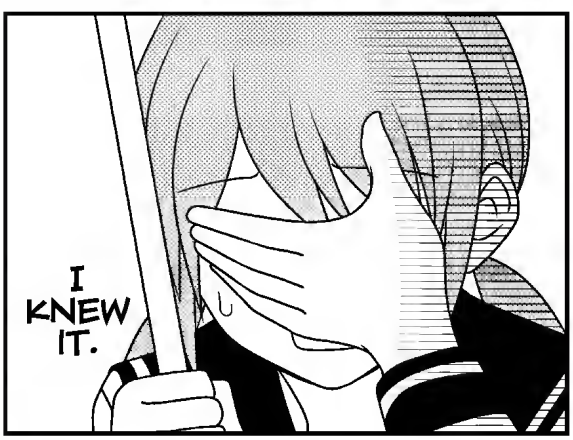
WELL, I MEAN ...
WHAT DO...
...YOU WANT TO DO, TAKANO?

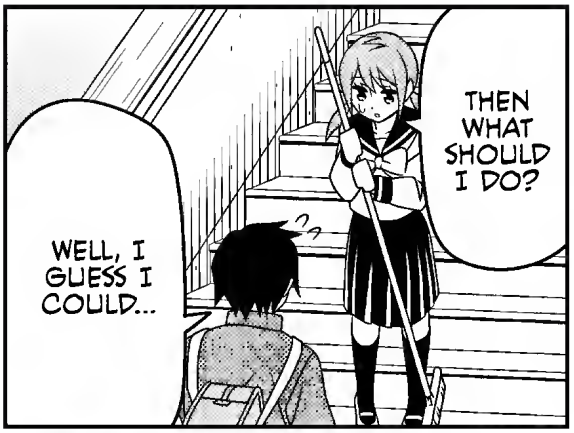

I KNOW ...
YOU OF-
FERED TO HELP...
...BE-
CAUSE I'M THE ONE CLEAN-
ING, RIGHT?



... YEAH.
THE TRUTH IS...
...IT WAS BE-
CAUSE YOU'RE ON DUTY.

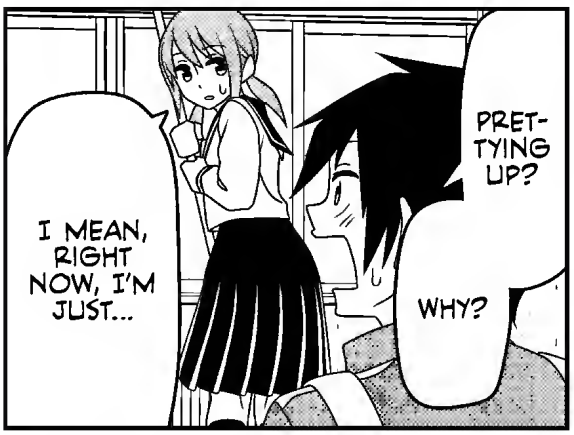
I WANT ...
...TO GET BET-
TER.


I KNEW IT.


THEN WHAT SHOULD I DO?
WELL, I GUESS I COULD...

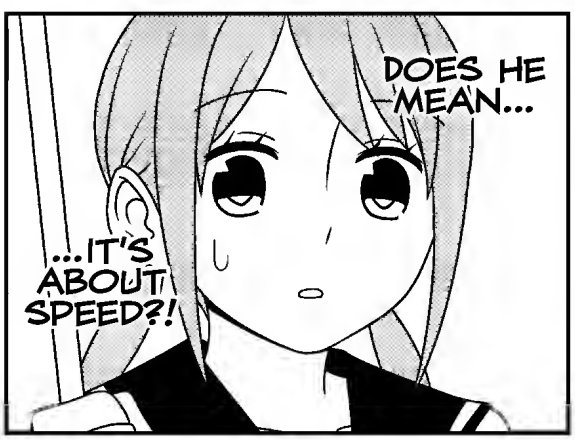
?
?
BET-TER?
WELL, YOU KNOW ...
BETTER AT PRETTYING UP AND STUFF...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

NO...
I MIGHT BE GETTING AHEAD OF MYSELF.
WHAT?

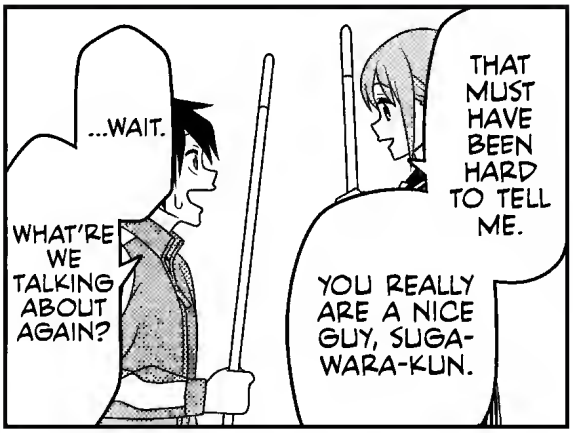

PRET-TYING UP?
I MEAN, RIGHT NOW, I'M JUST...
WHY?

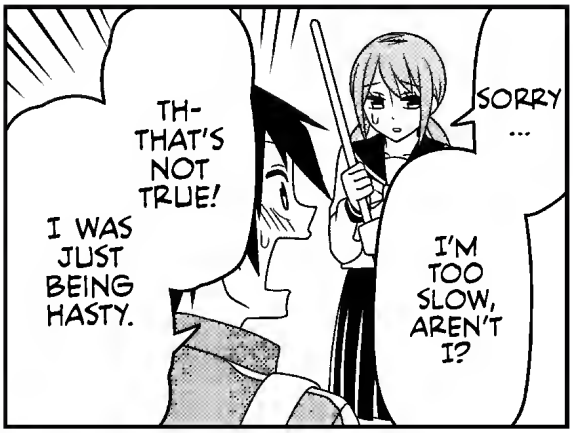
TAKE ALL THE TIME YOU NEED.
I'LL BE WAIT-ING.

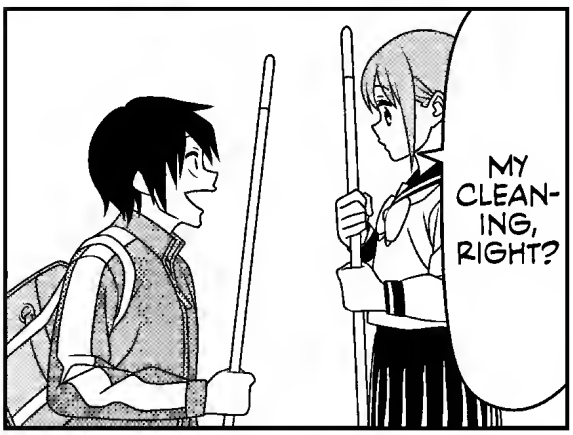
I THINK YOU'RE FINE...
...JUST THE WAY YOU ARE!


DOES HE MEAN...
...IT'S ABOUT SPEED?!

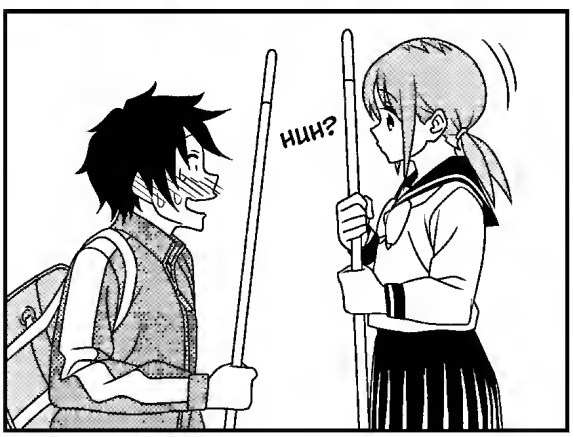
REALLY?!


THAT MUST HAVE BEEN HARD TO TELL ME.
YOU REALLY ARE A NICE GUY, SUGAWARA-KUN.
...WAIT.
WHAT'RE WE TALKING ABOUT AGAIN?


SORRY ...
I'M TOO SLOW, AREN'T I?
TH-THAT'S NOT TRUE!
I WAS JUST BEING HASTY.


MY CLEANING, RIGHT?

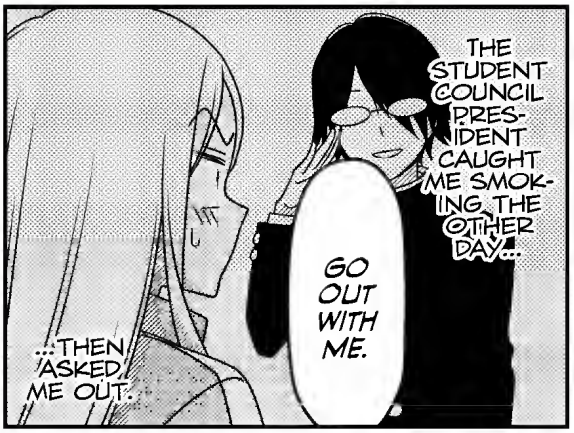
AS FAR AS TODAY GOES, I'M JUST GLAD ...THAT ... MY FEELINGS GOT ACROSS TO YOU.
SO TELL ME HOW YOU FEEL ANOTHER TIME...

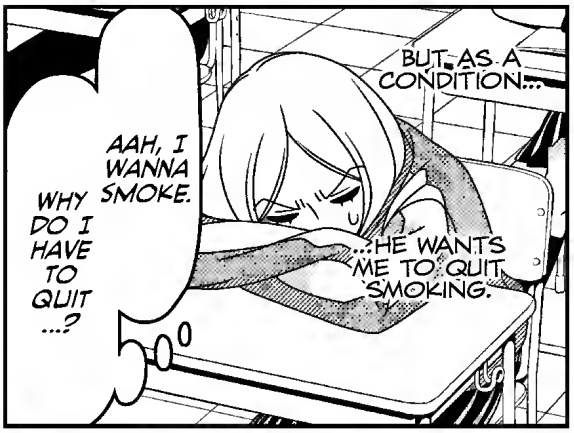

HUH?

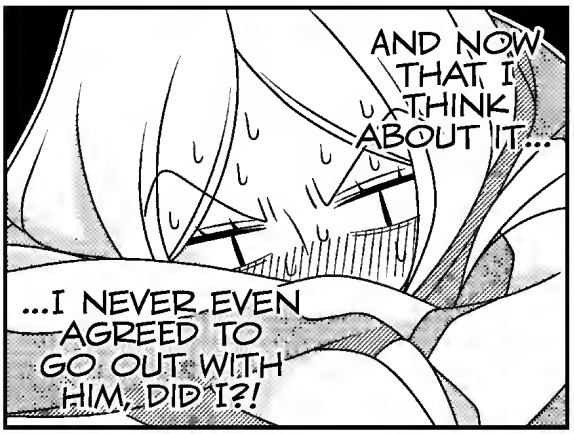
THANKS.
I'LL TRY TO HURRY UP AND GET BETTER...
...AT CLEANING.

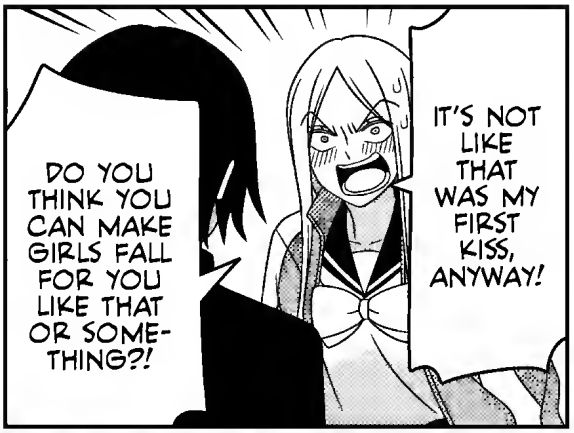
CLEANING!
RIGHT!
END

# Let's Find Out

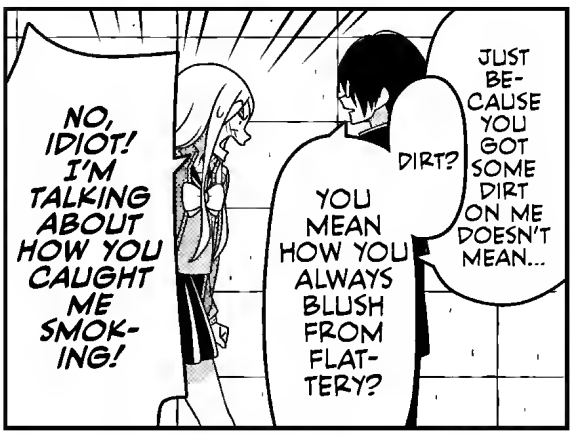


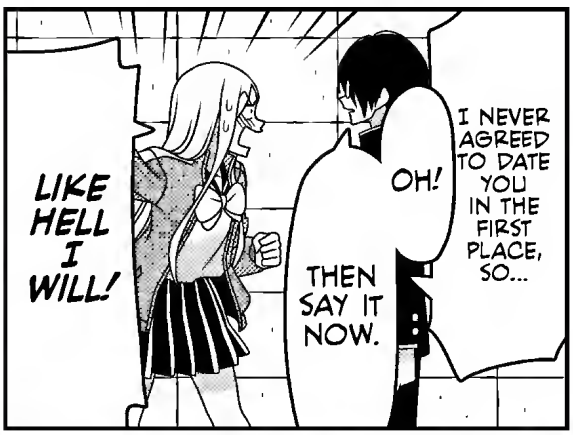



HEY, KAJI-SAN.
WHY'D YOU ASK ME TO MEET YOU OUT HERE?
AKAGI!
THERE'S SOME-THIN' I WANNA TELL YOU.

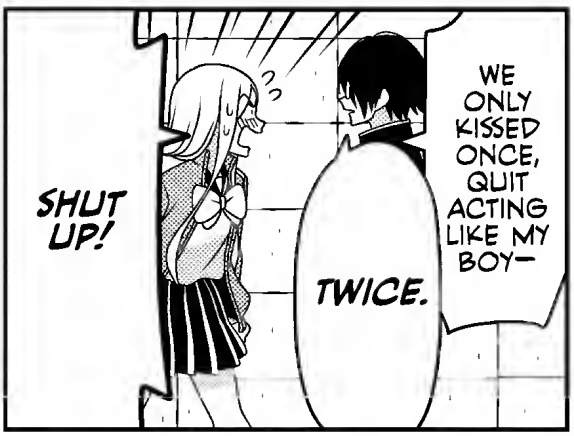
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT WAS MY FIRST KISS, ANYWAY!
DO YOU THINK YOU CAN MAKE GIRLS FALL FOR YOU LIKE THAT OR SOME-THING?!


JUST BE-CAUSE YOU GOT SOME DIRT ON ME DOESN'T MEAN...
DIRT?
YOU MEAN HOW YOU ALWAYS BLUSH FROM FLAT-TERY?
NO, IDIOT! I'M TALKING ABOUT HOW YOU CAUGHT ME SMOK-ING!

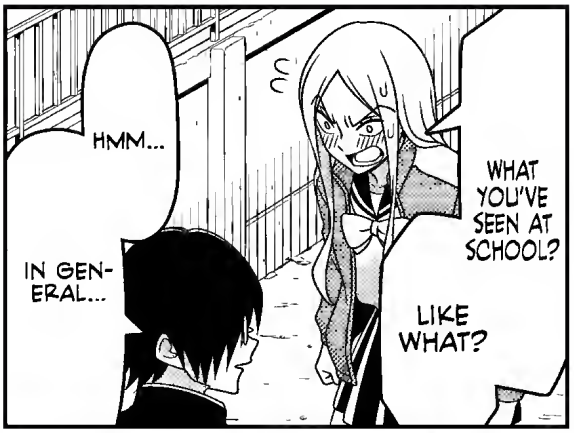

THEN WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO?
ERR...
LIKE I'M SAY-ING...!

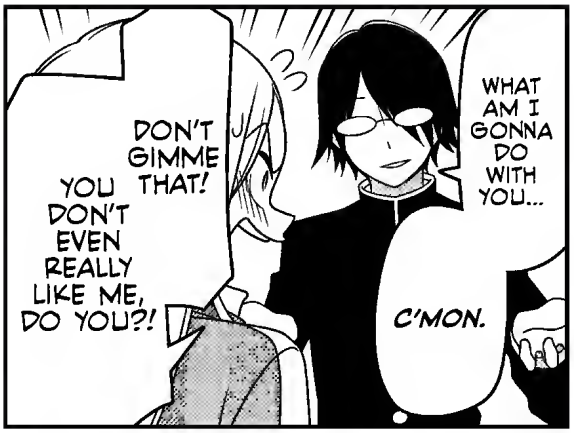

I NEVER AGREED TO DATE YOU IN THE FIRST PLACE, SO...
OH!
THEN SAY IT NOW.
LIKE HELL I WILL!

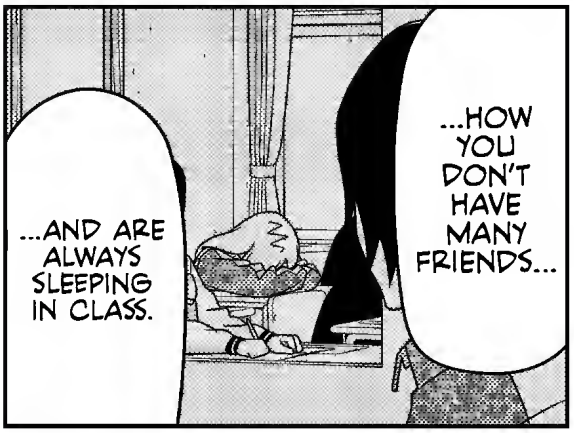
WHY DID YOU...
UMM...

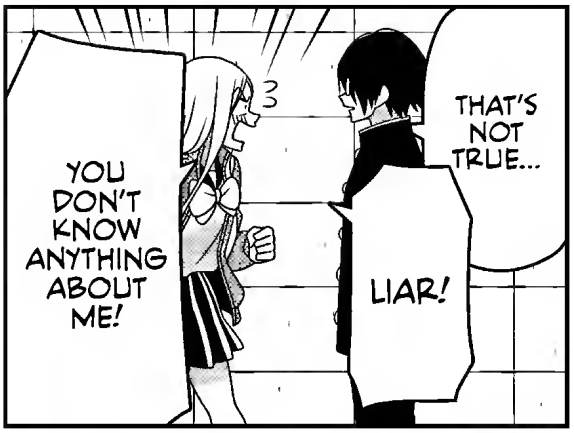

WE ONLY KISSED ONCE, QUIT ACTING LIKE MY BOY—
TWICE.
SHUT UP!

DO YOU WANT ME TO BE MORE AFFEC-TION-ATE?

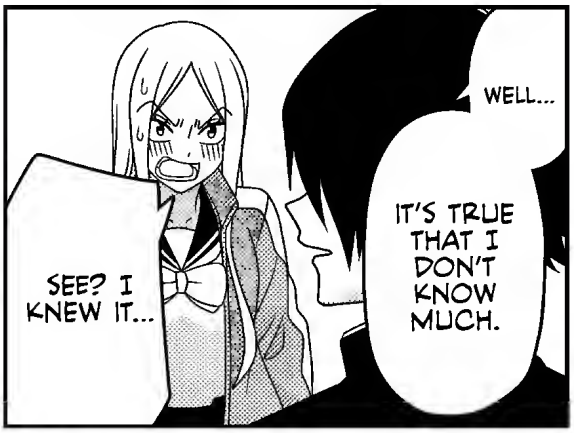

HMM...
IN GEN-ERAL...
WHAT YOU'VE SEEN AT SCHOOL?
LIKE WHAT?

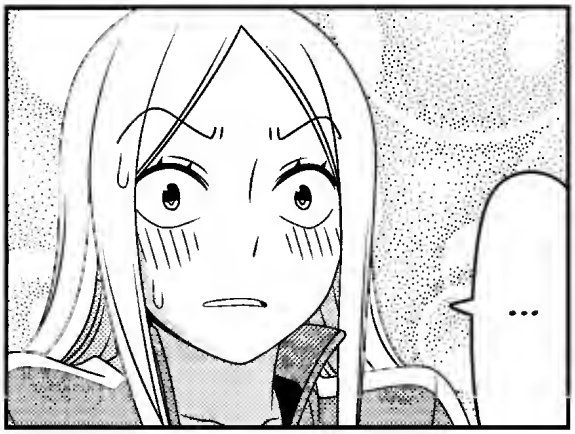

DON'T GIMME THAT!
YOU DON'T EVEN REALLY LIKE ME, DO YOU?!
WHAT AM I GONNA DO WITH YOU...
C'MON.

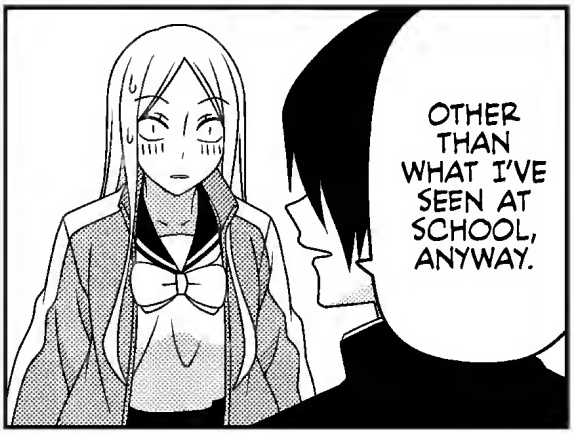

...AND ARE ALWAYS SLEEPING IN CLASS.
...HOW YOU DON'T HAVE MANY FRIENDS...


YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT ME!
LIAR!
THAT'S NOT TRUE...

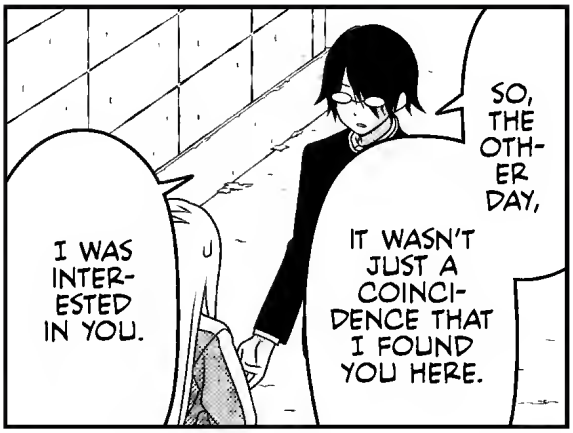
...BUT YOU CHOSE TO SMOKE HERE INSTEAD.
AND HOW AFTER SCHOOL, YOU COULD'VE JUST GONE HOME...

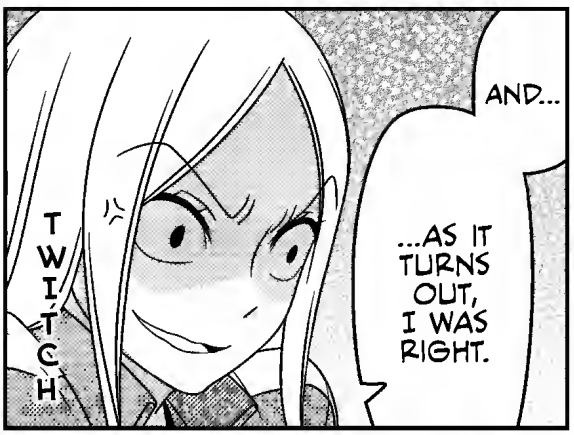

SEE? I KNEW IT...
WELL... IT'S TRUE THAT I DON'T KNOW MUCH.

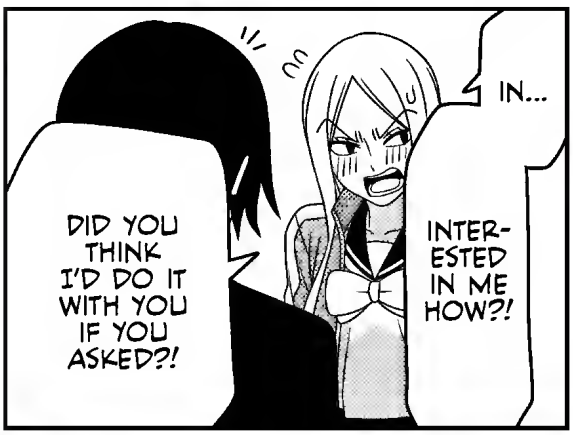

...


OTHER THAN WHAT I'VE SEEN AT SCHOOL, ANYWAY.

I THOUGHT THAT...
...YOU WERE THE KIND OF GIRL...
...WHO'D SLEEP WITH ANYONE WHO OFFERED.


SO, THE OTHER DAY,
IT WASN'T JUST A COINCIDENCE THAT I FOUND YOU HERE.
I WAS INTERESTED IN YOU.

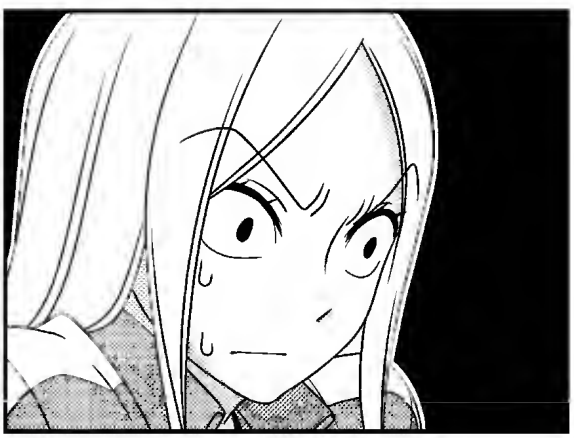

AND...
...AS IT TURNS OUT, I WAS RIGHT.
TWITCH

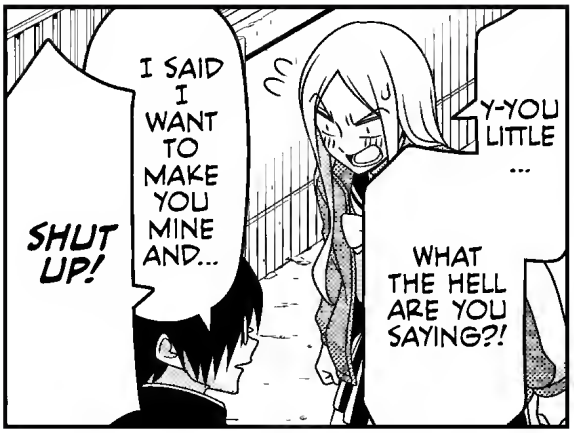

IN...
INTERESTED IN ME HOW?!
DID YOU THINK I'D DO IT WITH YOU IF YOU ASKED?!

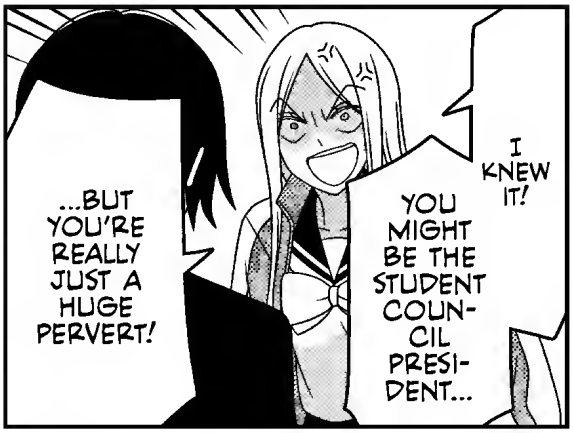
IF I WERE A SKIRT CHASER...
YOU'D BE EASY GAME.
TWITCH
TWITCH
TWITCH
TWITCH

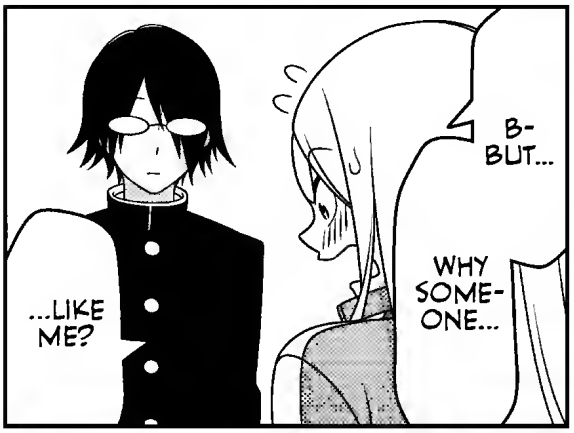
UH-HUH.

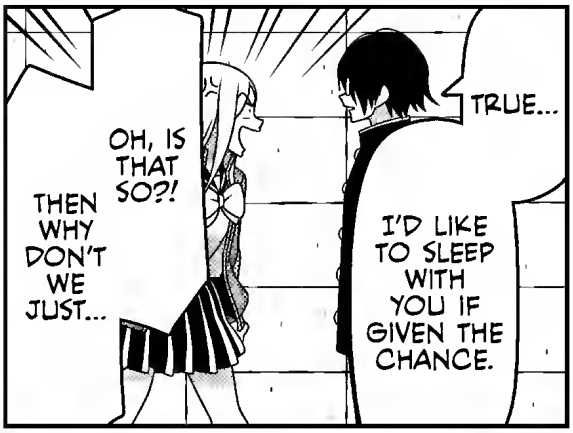
WELL,
AS FAR AS MY TASTES GO...
...YOU'RE A LITTLE SCRAWNY.

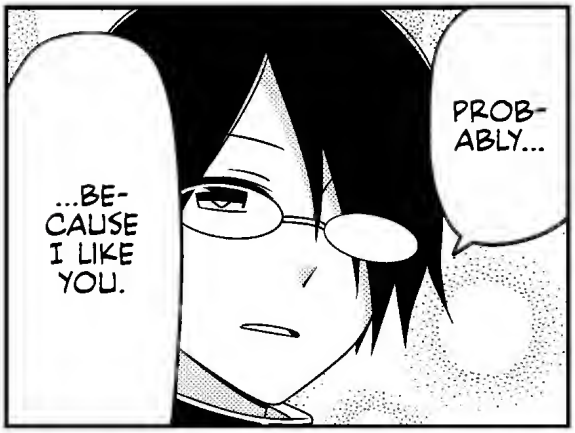



I SAID I WANT TO MAKE YOU MINE AND...
SHUT UP!
Y-YOU LITTLE...
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU SAYING?!

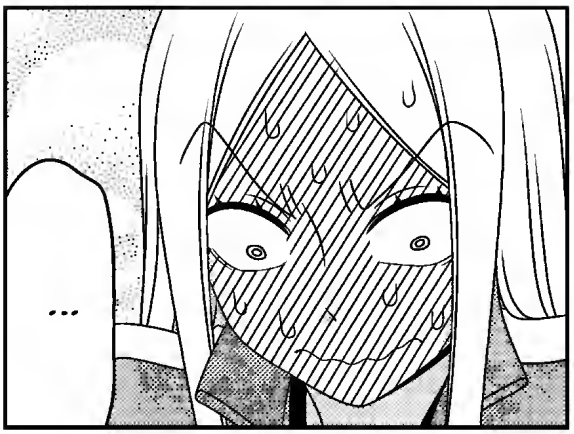

I KNEW IT!
YOU MIGHT BE THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT...
...BUT YOU'RE REALLY JUST A HUGE PERVERT!

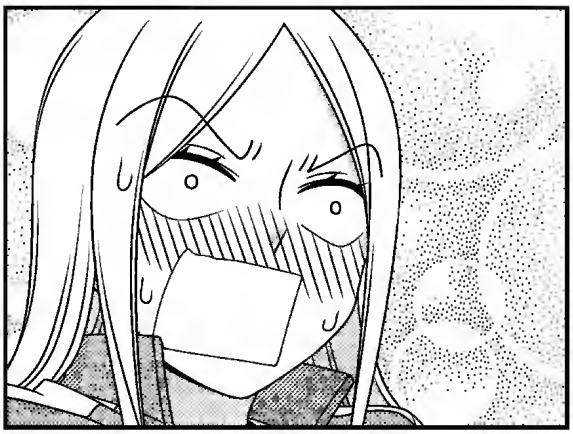

B-BUT...
WHY SOMEONE...
...LIKE ME?

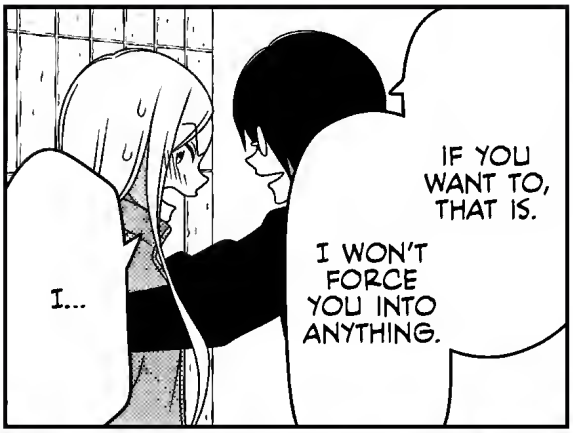

TRUE...
I'D LIKE TO SLEEP WITH YOU IF GIVEN THE CHANCE.
OH, IS THAT SO?!
THEN WHY DON'T WE JUST...

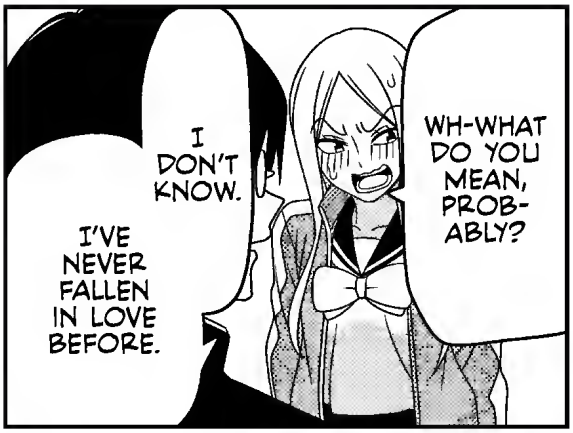

PROBABLY...
...BECAUSE I LIKE YOU.

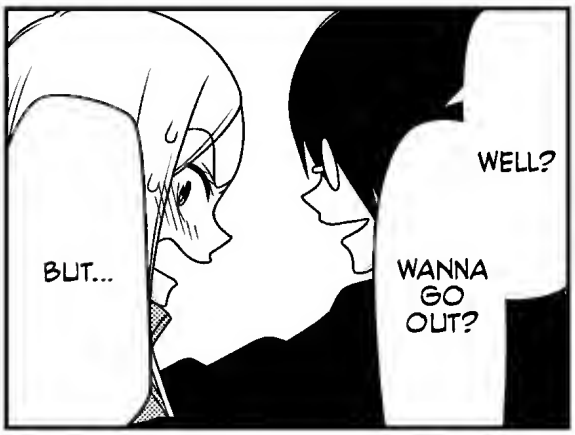
SO,
BEFORE YOU WERE TAKEN BY ANOTHER GUY...
...I WANTED TO TAKE YOU FOR MYSELF.


...

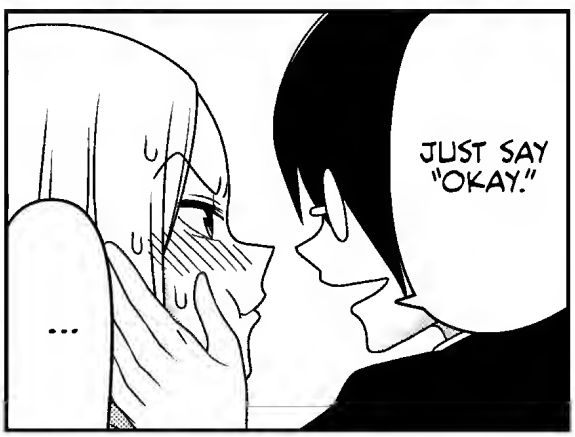


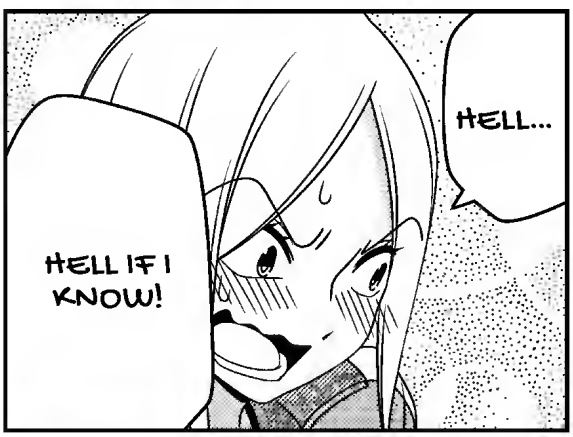

I...
IF YOU WANT TO, THAT IS.
I WON'T FORCE YOU INTO ANYTHING.

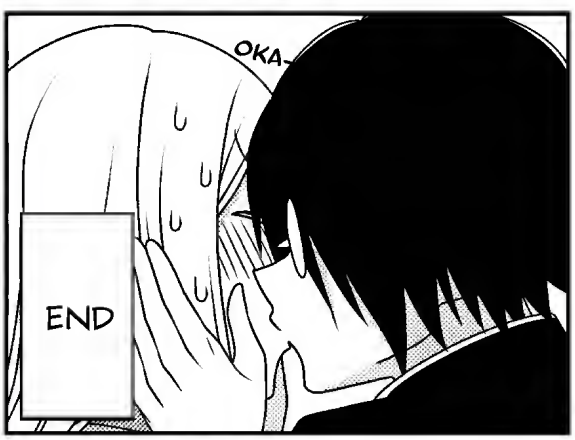

WH-WHAT DO YOU MEAN, PROB-ABLY?
I DON'T KNOW.
I'VE NEVER FALLEN IN LOVE BEFORE.


BUT...
WELL?
WANNA GO OUT?

...THEN WHAT WOULD YOU CALL IT?
BUT IF THIS ISN'T LOVE...

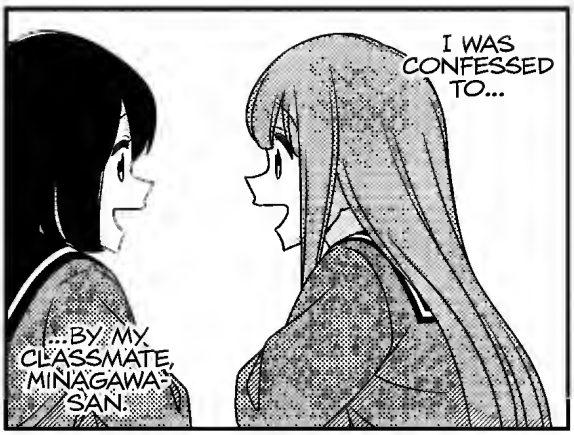

...
JUST SAY "OKAY."

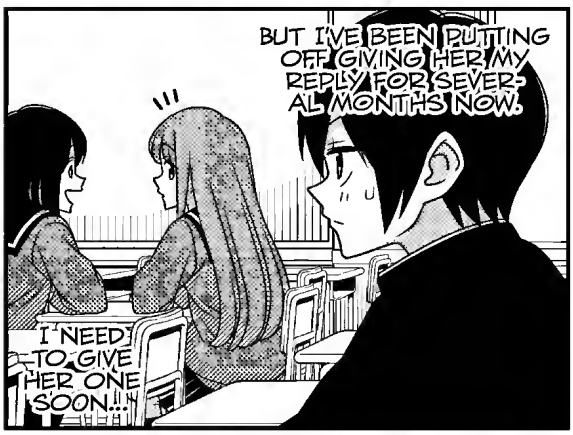

HELL IF I KNOW!
HELL...


END
OKA-

...LET'S FIND OUT TOGETHER.
IN THAT CASE...

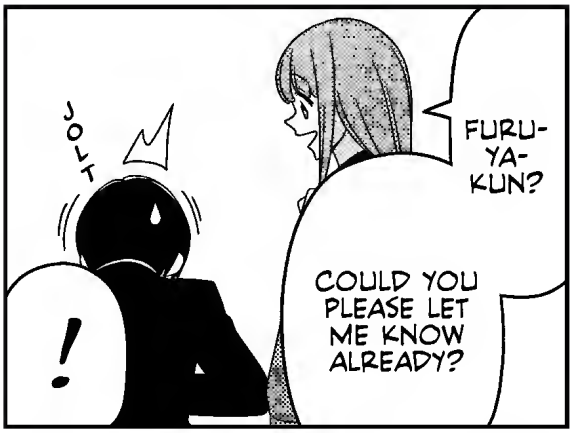
# Reply

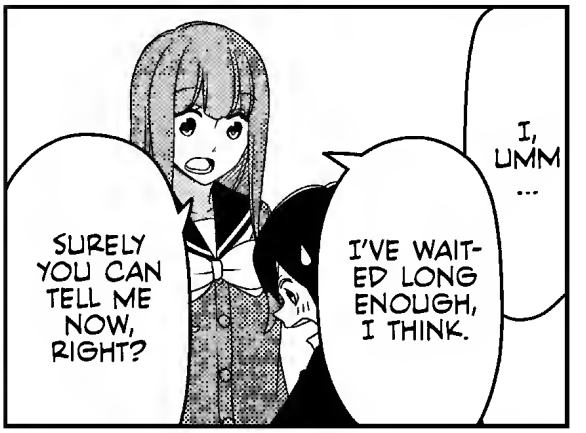

I WAS CONFESSED TO...
...BY MY CLASSMATE, MINAGAWA-SAN.

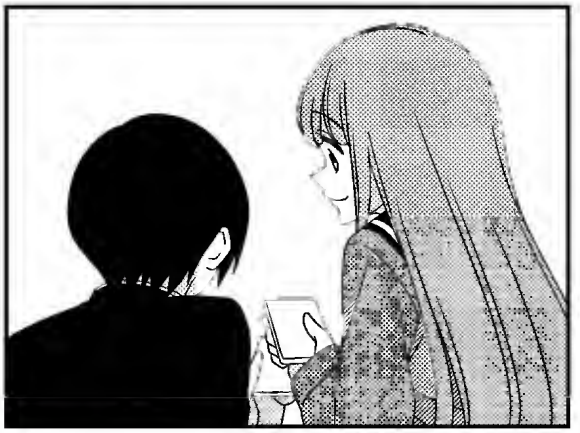

BUT I'VE BEEN PUTTING OFF GIVING HER MY REPLY FOR SEVERAL MONTHS NOW.
I NEED TO GIVE HER ONE SOON...!!

SMILE

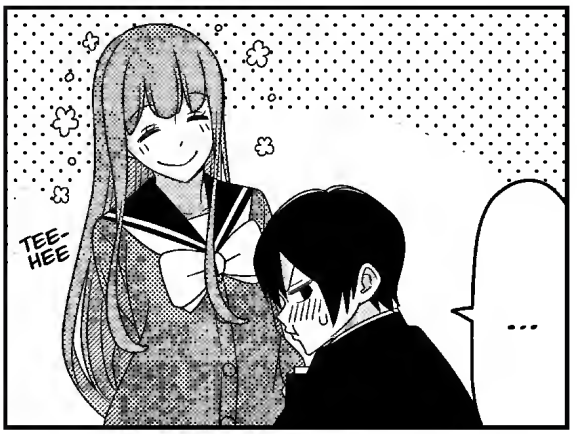
...ALL RIGHT!





*A MESSENGER/CALL APPLICATION SIMILAR TO SKYPE.

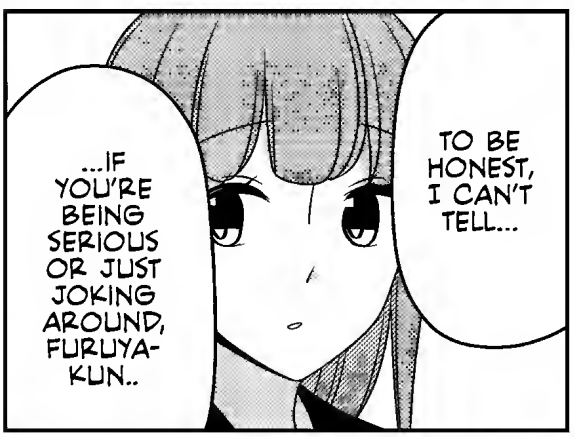


ALL RIGHT.
IF YOU DON'T WANT TO, THEN...
HANG ON...!

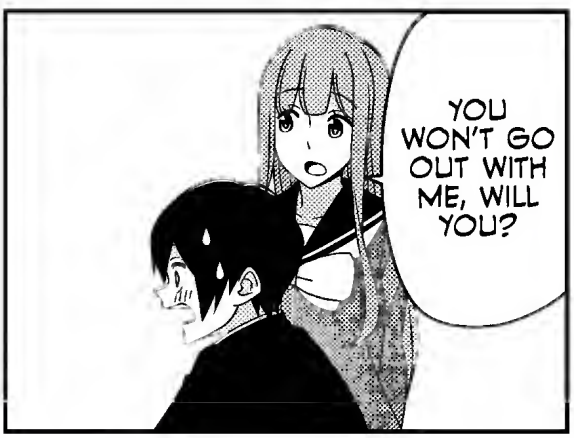
MINAGAWA-SAN,
I CAN'T TELL IF YOU'RE BEING SERIOUS OR JUST JOKING AROUND.
SORRY, SORRY.

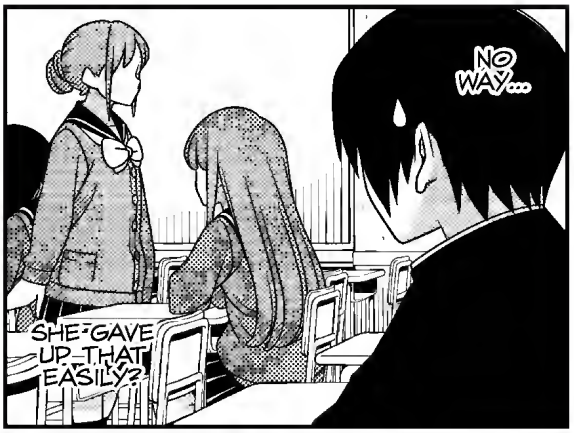
IT'S NOT LIKE I DON'T WANT TO, JUST...
WHEN IT COMES TO ACTUALLY REPLYING...

THEN I'LL ASK SERIOUSLY.
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
TH-THAT'S...


TO BE HONEST, I CAN'T TELL...
...IF YOU'RE BEING SERIOUS OR JUST JOKING AROUND, FURUYA-KUN..

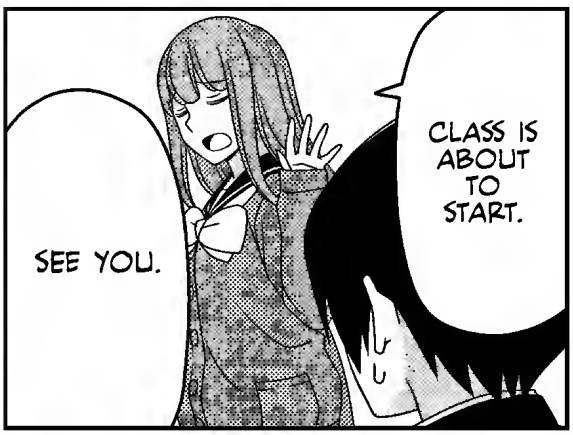
GO... GO!


YOU WON'T GO OUT WITH ME, WILL YOU?


NO WAY...
SHE GAVE UP THAT EASILY?

UMM ...
I DIDN'T MEAN TO...
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
I'LL GIVE UP.

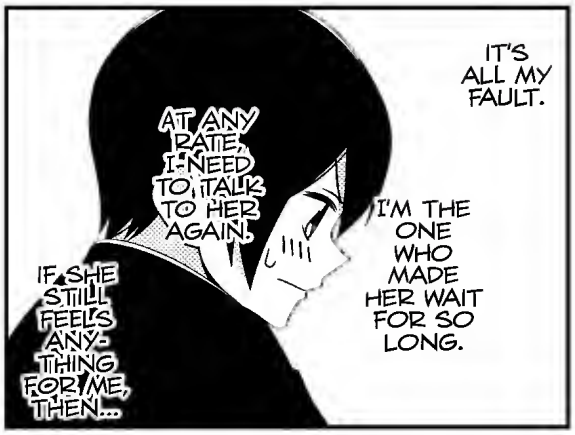
WAIT A SEC. WHAT IF THIS IS ANOTHER ONE OF MINAGAWA-SAN'S ACTS...
...AND SHE'S JUST WAITING FOR ME TO STOP HER?


CLASS IS ABOUT TO START.
SEE YOU.

AM I STUPID?!

WHA-
WHAAAAT?!

NO. THAT'S NOT RIGHT.
SHE DIDN'T GIVE UP.
SHE COMPLETELY LOST INTEREST.

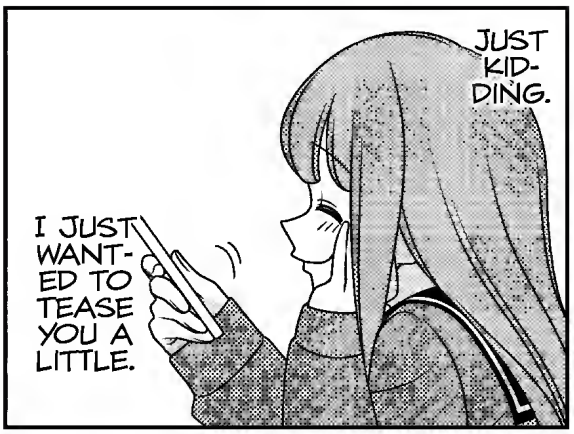

IT'S ALL MY FAULT.
I'M THE ONE WHO MADE HER WAIT FOR SO LONG.
AT ANY RATE, I NEED TO TALK TO HER AGAIN!
IF SHE STILL FEELS ANYTHING FOR ME, THEN...

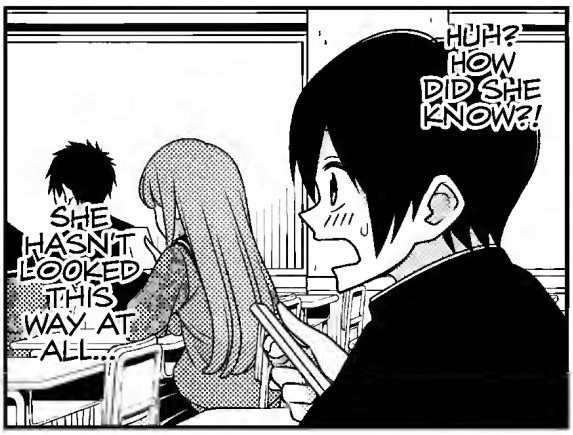
I DON'T BLAME HER.
WHO WOULD LIKE A WISHY-WASHY GUY LIKE ME?
FLASH

PEEK

14:45
Yuki Minagawa: Why are you staringg at me?

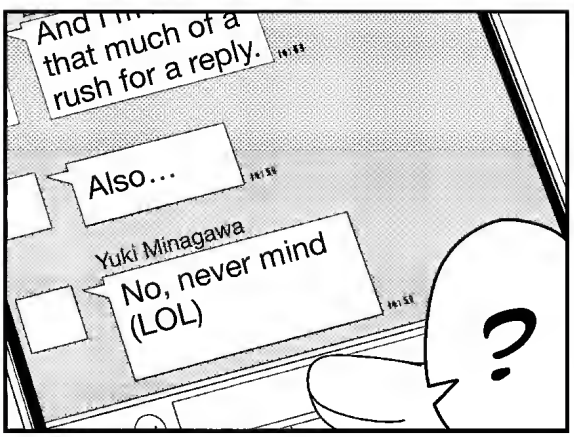
?!

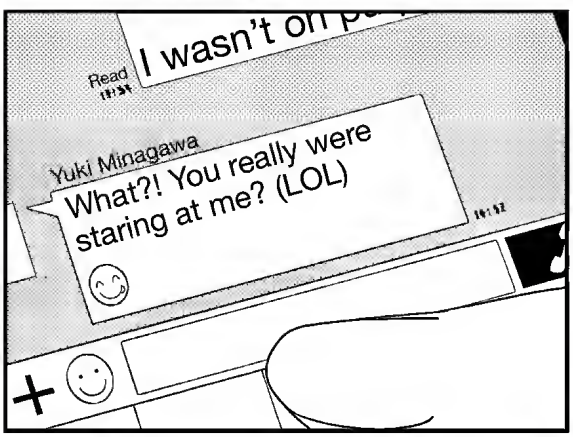

I JUST WANTED TO TEASE YOU A LITTLE.
JUST KIDDING.

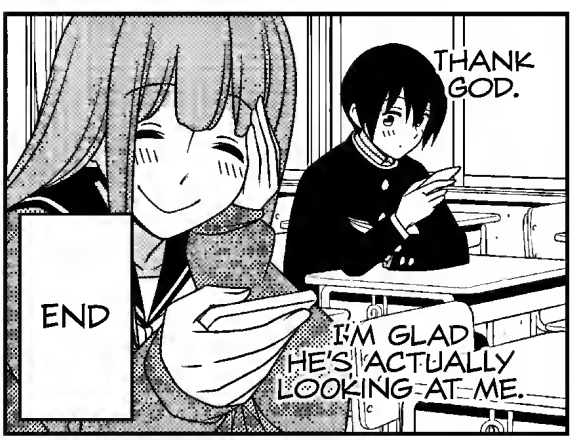

SHE HASN'T LOOKED THIS WAY AT ALL...
HUH? HOW DID SHE KNOW?!

ALSO...
AND I'M NOT IN THAT MUCH OF A RUSH FOR A REPLY.

IS MINAGAWA-SAN ANGRY?
WAIT...

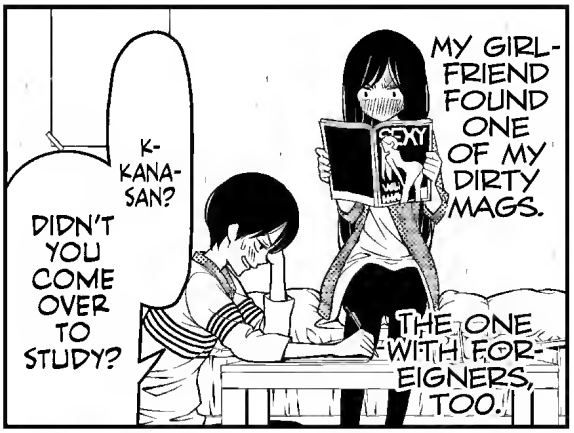

that much of a rush for a reply.
Also…
Yuki Minagawa
No, never mind (LOL)
?

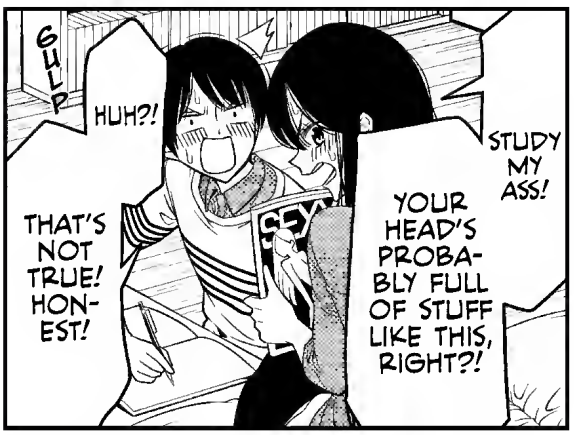

Read
Yuki Minagawa
What?! You really were staring at me? (LOL)

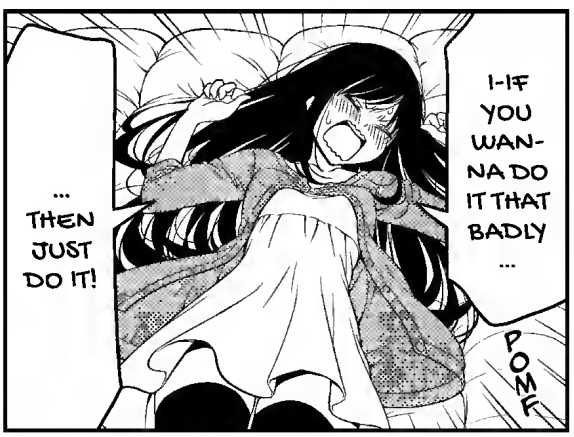

END
I'M GLAD HE'S ACTUALLY LOOKING AT ME.
THANK GOD.

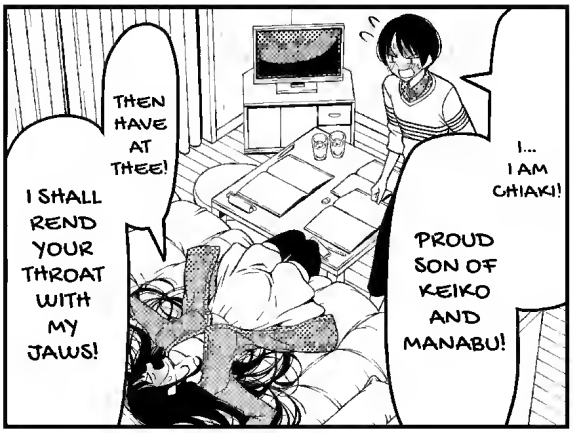
AAHHH!
GAAAA

# Romantic Comedy

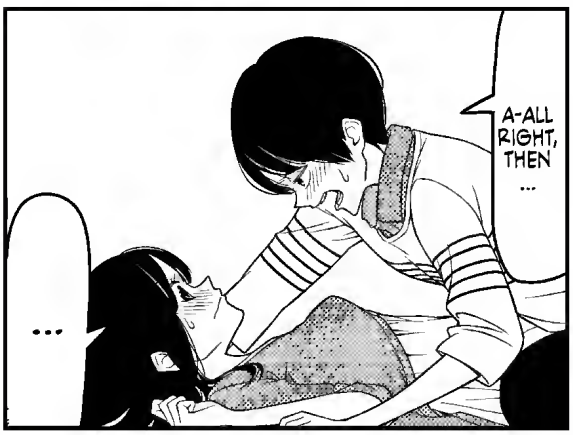


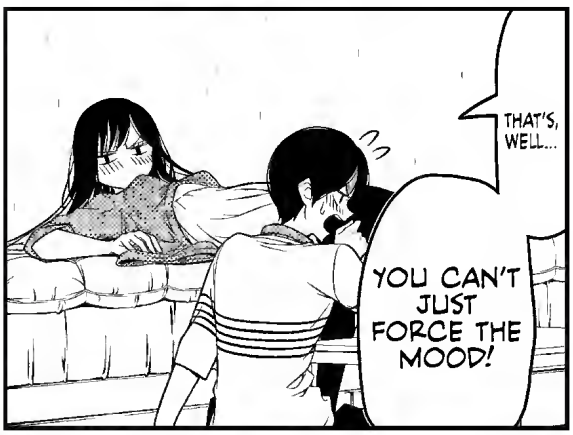



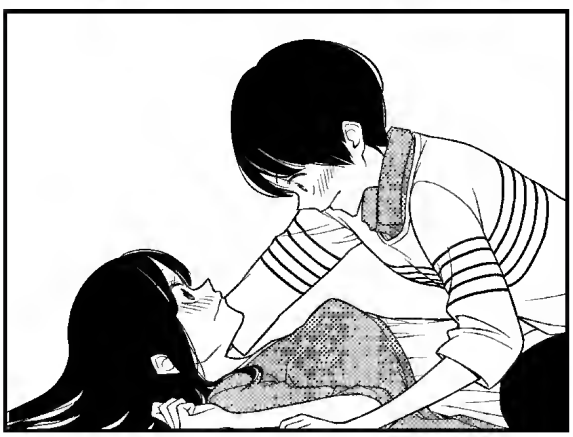




I... I AM CHIAKI!
PROUD SON OF KEIKO AND MANABU!
THEN HAVE AT THEE!
I SHALL REND YOUR THROAT WITH MY JAWS!

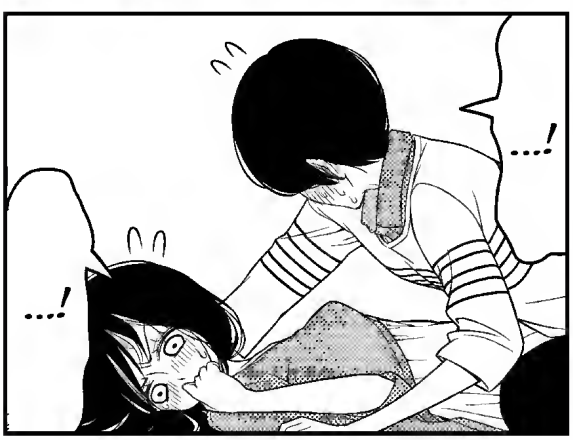
I-ISN'T THERE AN ORDER TO THIS SORTA THING?!
BUT...
YOU DON'T MAKE ANY MOVES, CHIAKI.
WE HAVEN'T EVEN KISSED YET.


A-ALL RIGHT, THEN ...
...


THAT'S, WELL...
YOU CAN'T JUST FORCE THE MOOD!



WHAT, BOY?
ART THOU AFRAID?

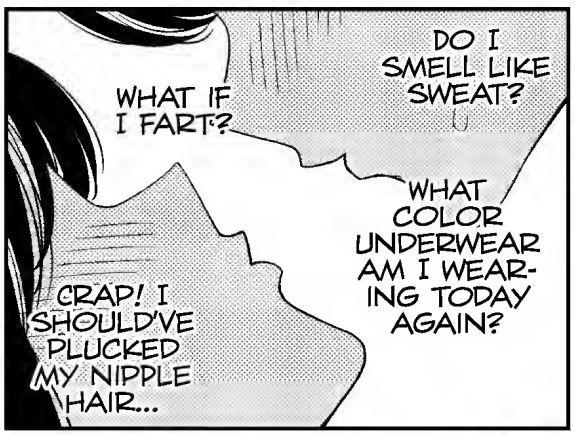

...!
...!

SORRY... I LIED.
WE HAVE TO START WITH A KISS!
EVERYONE KNOWS THAT!
WHAT DOES EVERYONE ELSE DO AT TIMES LIKE THESE?

Y'KNOW...
...KANA'S GOT PRETTY BIG BOOBS.

AT ANY RATE, KISS FIRST...
I WONDER IF MY BREATH STINKS.
ARE MY LIPS CHAPPED?

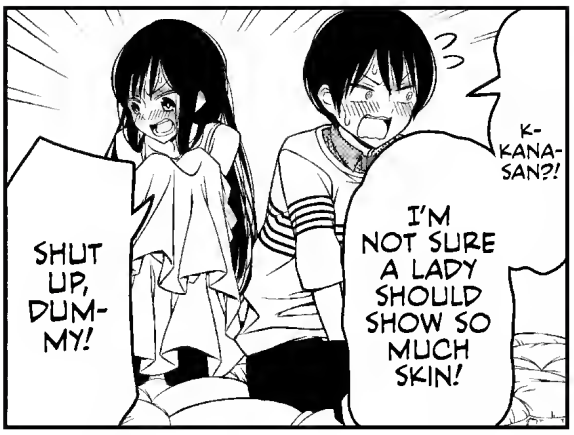
RAAAAHHHHHHH!
I WANNA SQUEEZE THEM!
HERE GOES...
CAN I? IT'S OKAY, RIGHT?!

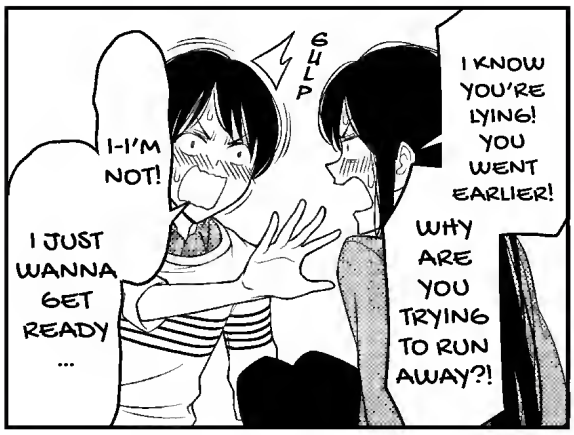

DO I SMELL LIKE SWEAT?
WHAT IF I FART?
WHAT COLOR UNDERWEAR AM I WEARING TODAY AGAIN?
CRAP! I SHOULD'VE PLUCKED MY NIPPLE HAIR...

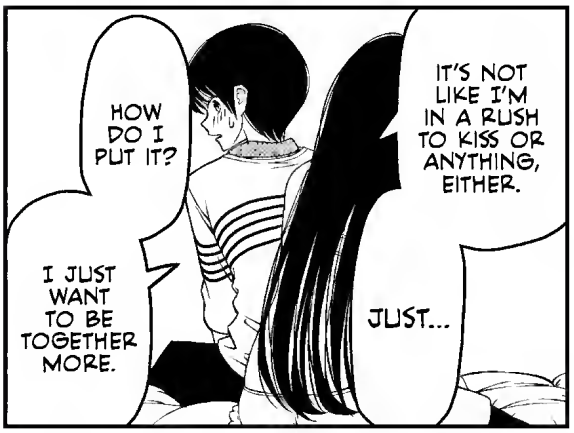
HUH?
WE HAVEN'T KISSED YET...
FREEZE

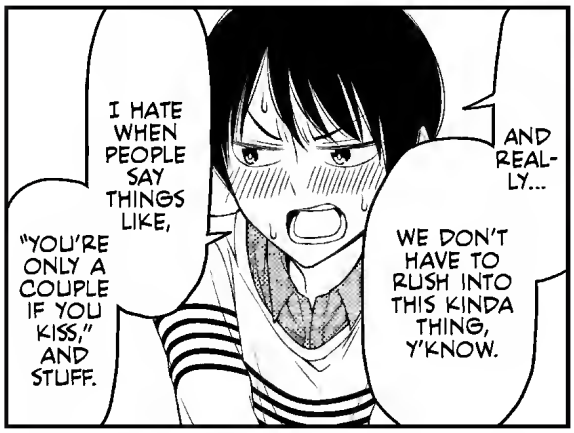
HANG ON.
I HAVE TO POOP.

WAIT! SORRY! FORGET I SAID THAT!
NO, NO. YOU'RE RIGHT! FIRST THINGS FIRST!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT!

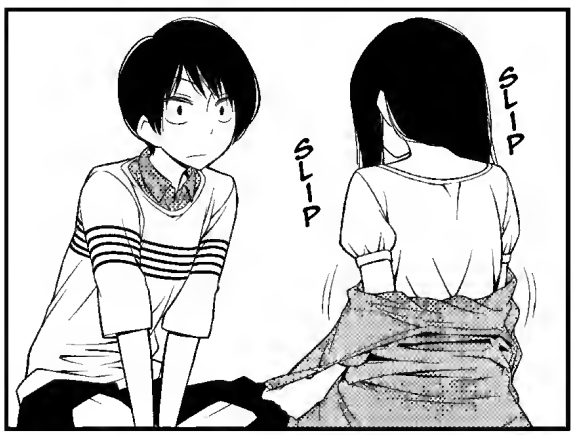

K-KANA-SAN?!
I'M NOT SURE A LADY SHOULD SHOW SO MUCH SKIN!
SHUT UP, DUM-MY!

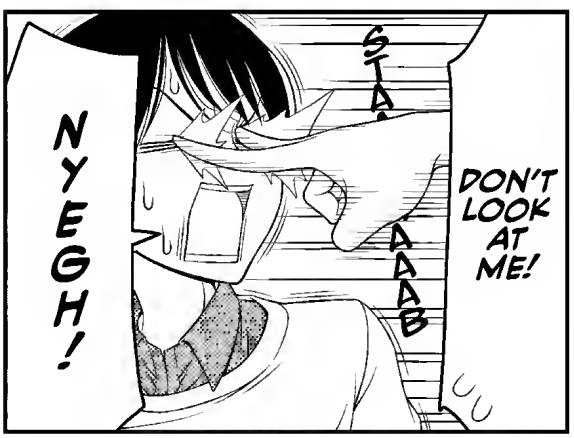

I KNOW YOU'RE LYING! YOU WENT EARLIER!
GULP
I-I'M NOT!
I JUST WANNA GET READY ...
WHY ARE YOU TRYING TO RUN AWAY?!

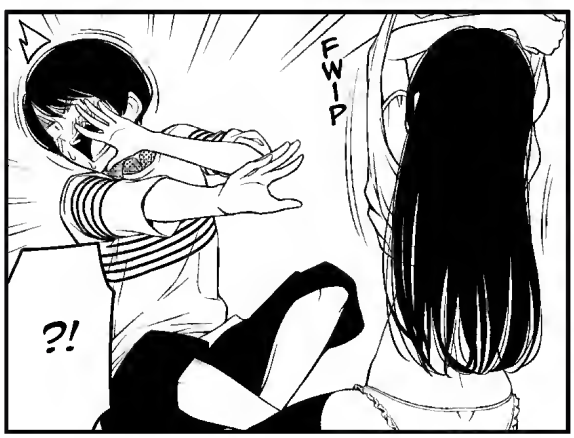

IT'S NOT LIKE I'M IN A RUSH TO KISS OR ANYTHING, EITHER.
JUST...
HOW DO I PUT IT?
I JUST WANT TO BE TOGETHER MORE.

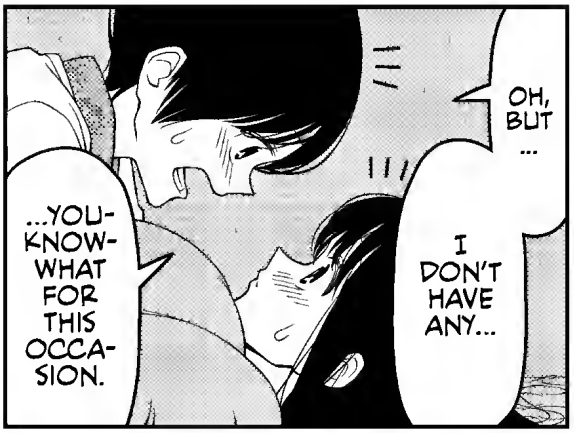

I HATE WHEN PEOPLE SAY THINGS LIKE,
"YOU'RE ONLY A COUPLE IF YOU KISS," AND STUFF.
AND REAL-LY...
WE DON'T HAVE TO RUSH INTO THIS KINDA THING, Y'KNOW.

I WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT YOU,
AND I WANT YOU TO KNOW MORE ABOUT ME!
KANA...


SLIP
SLIP
SLIP

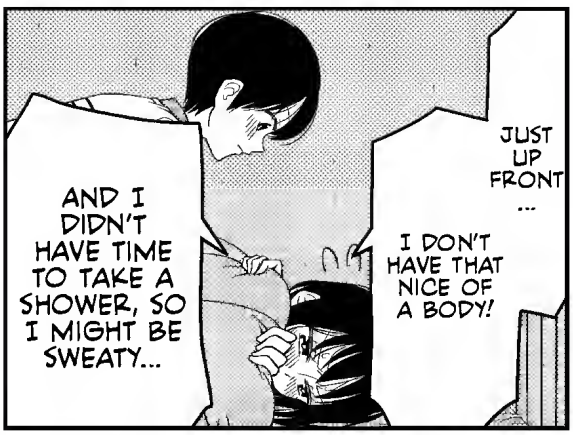

STA
AAAB
DON'T LOOK AT ME!
NYEGH!

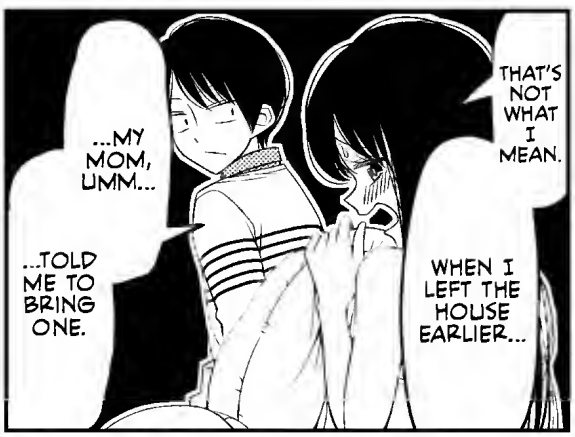

FWIP
?!


OH, BUT ...
I DON'T HAVE ANY...
...YOU-KNOW-WHAT FOR THIS OCCA-SION.

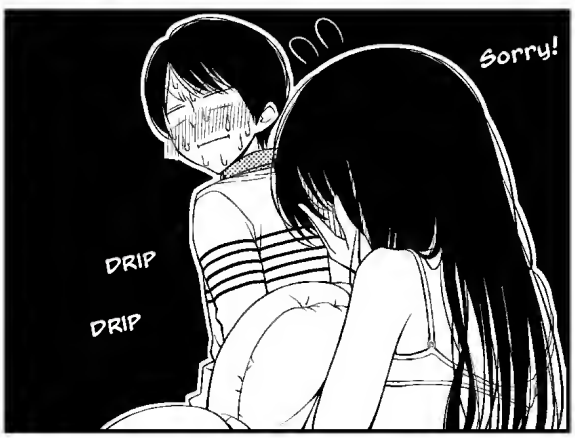
TURN THE LIGHTS OFF!
WHAT ABOUT WANT-ING ME TO KNOW MORE ABOUT YOU?
SHUT UP, PERV!

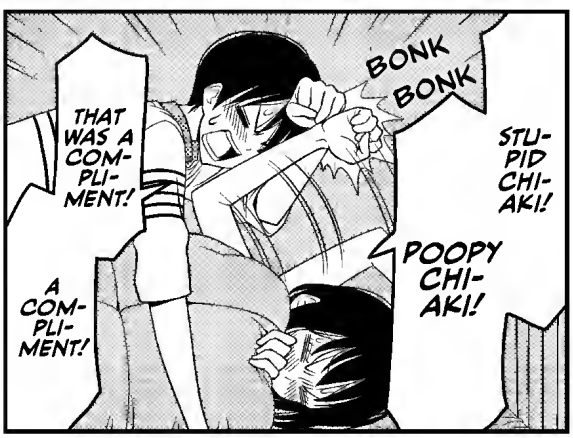
I-IT'S FINE...
NO, IT'S NOT!
WAIT HERE, I'LL GO BUY SOME...


JUST UP FRONT ...
I DON'T HAVE THAT NICE OF A BODY!
AND I DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO TAKE A SHOWER, SO I MIGHT BE SWEATY...


THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEAN.
WHEN I LEFT THE HOUSE EARLIER...
...MY MOM, UMM...
...TOLD ME TO BRING ONE.

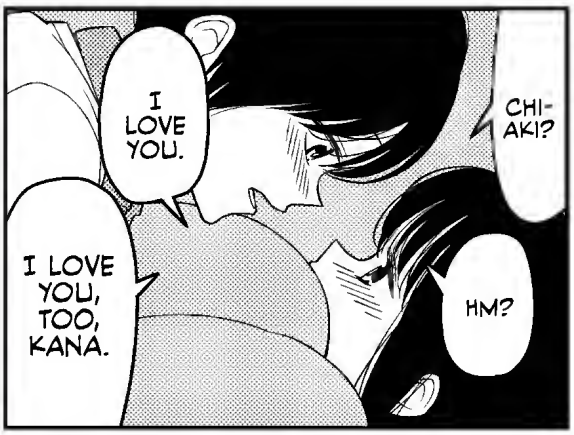
WHEN I CAUGHT A GLIMPSE...
...YOU LOOKED REALLY PRETTY TO ME.

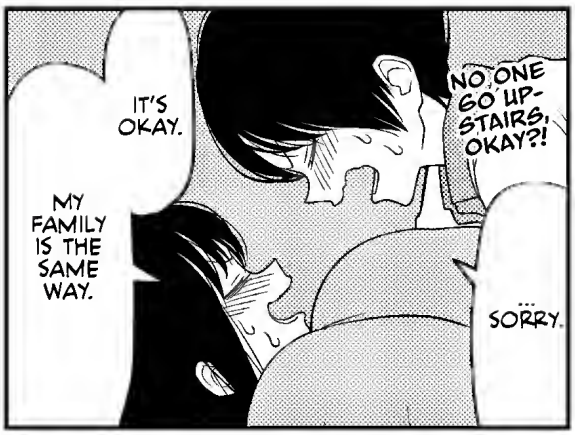

Sorry!
DRIP
DRIP

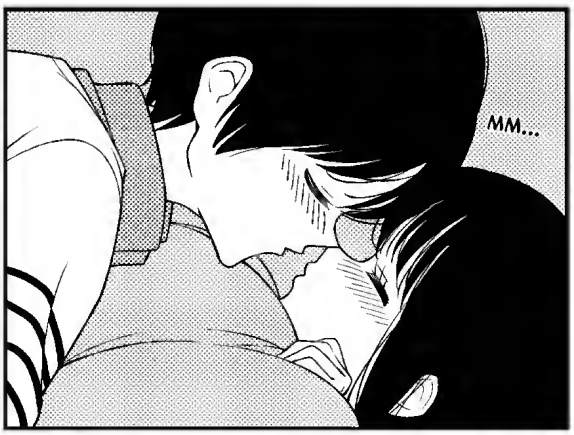

BONK BONK
STU-PID CHI-AKI!
POOPY CHI-AKI!
THAT WAS A COM-PLI-MENT!
A COM-PLI-MENT!

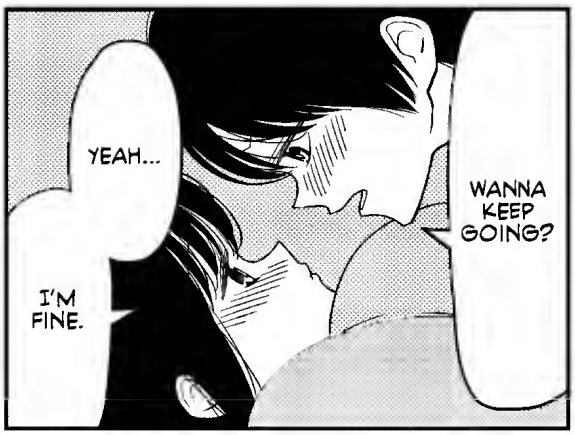
O-OKAY...
GUESS WE'RE ALL READY, THEN...
YEAH...


...OOPS.
PAR-DON ME.
I'LL JUST LEAVE THEM HERE. EAT UP WHEN YOU'RE DONE, OKAY?

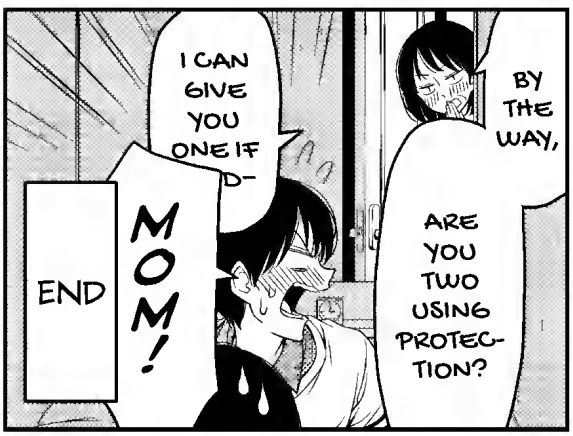

CHI-AKI?
I LOVE YOU.
HM?
I LOVE YOU, TOO, KANA.


NO ONE GO UP-STAIRS, OKAY?!
IT'S OKAY.
MY FAMILY IS THE SAME WAY.
...SORRY.

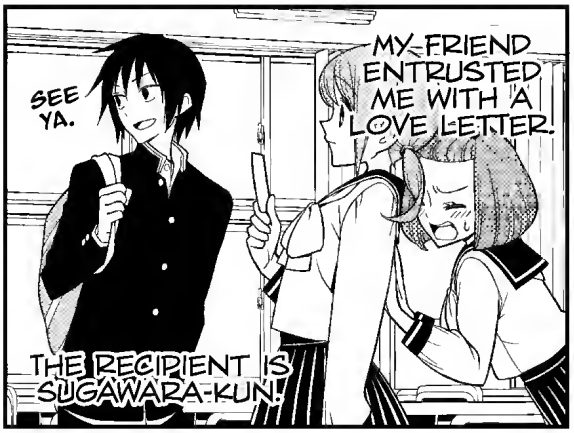

MM...

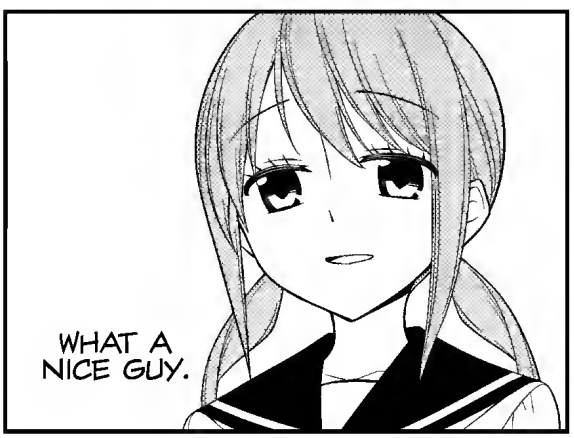

WANNA KEEP GOING?
YEAH...
I'M FINE.

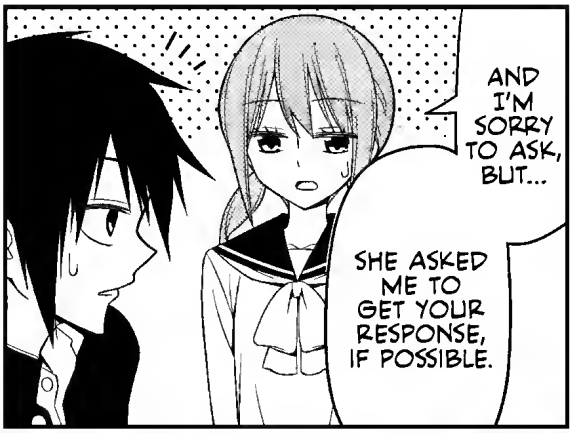
CLACK
FREEZE
CHI-AKI!!
I BROUGHT SNACKS FOR YOU AND KANA-CHAN...

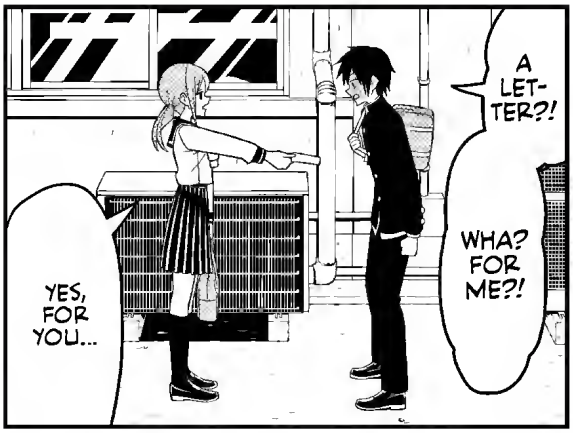

BY THE WAY, ARE YOU TWO USING PROTEC-TION?
I CAN GIVE YOU ONE IF D-
MOM!
END

# You're Dazzling

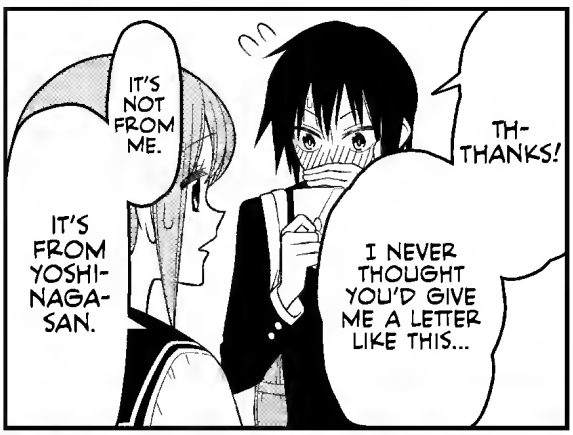


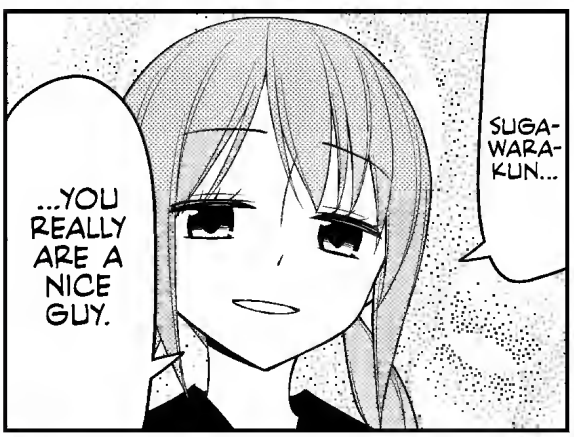



AND I'M SORRY TO ASK, BUT...
SHE ASKED ME TO GET YOUR RESPONSE, IF POSSIBLE.

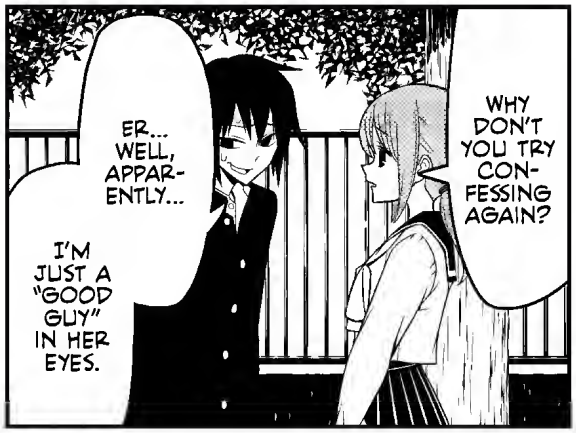

A LET-TER?!
WHA? FOR ME?!
YES, FOR YOU...

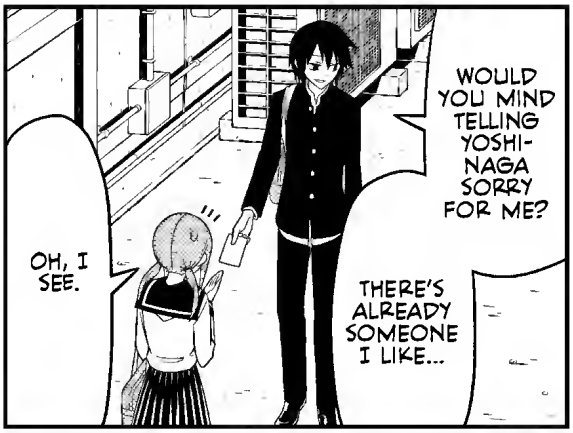
DON'T SWEAT IT.
YOU'RE BEING THE MOST CONSID-ERATE...
...BY GOING THROUGH ALL THIS TROUBLE, TAKANO.


IT'S NOT FROM ME.
TH-THANKS!
IT'S FROM YOSHI-NAGA-SAN.
I NEVER THOUGHT YOU'D GIVE ME A LETTER LIKE THIS...


SUGA-WARA-KUN...
...YOU REALLY ARE A NICE GUY.

?
?
O-OH, I SEE!
WOW, HOW EM-BAR-RASS-ING!


WHY DON'T YOU TRY CONFESSING AGAIN?
ER... WELL, APPARENTLY...
I'M JUST A "GOOD GUY" IN HER EYES.


WOULD YOU MIND TELLING YOSHINAGA SORRY FOR ME?
OH, I SEE.
THERE'S ALREADY SOMEONE I LIKE...

...
SHE SOUNDS LIKE ME.
JOLT
!

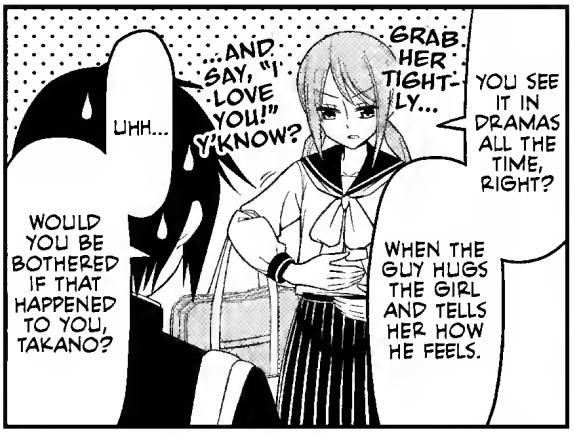
BADUM
AR-EN'T YOU ...
GOING TO CON-FESS?

SAY, TAKANO...
IF I CON-FESSED TO YOU,
WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

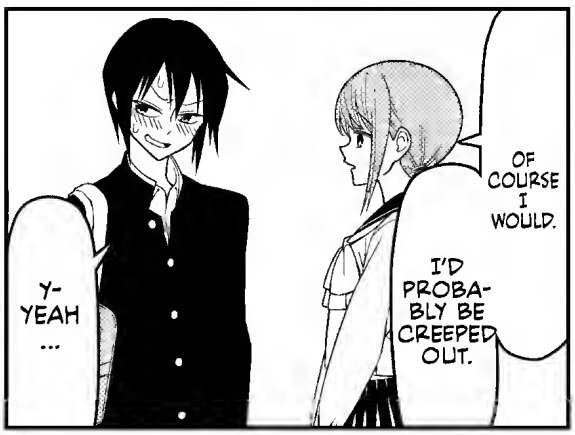
...SHE DIDN'T SEEM TO GET THE HINT.
WELL, I DID, BUT...

NO WAY.
OH, PLEASE.

I GUESS THINGS LIKE THAT REAL-LY DO HAPPEN, HUH?
...


YOU SEE IT IN DRAMAS ALL THE TIME, RIGHT?
GRAB HER TIGHTLY...
...AND SAY, "I LOVE YOU!" Y'KNOW?
UHH...
WHEN THE GUY HUGS THE GIRL AND TELLS HER HOW HE FEELS.
WOULD YOU BE BOTHERED IF THAT HAPPENED TO YOU, TAKANO?

I DON'T GET THAT KIND OF STUFF AT ALL.
IT WOULDN'T BE ANY FUN DATING ME.
...

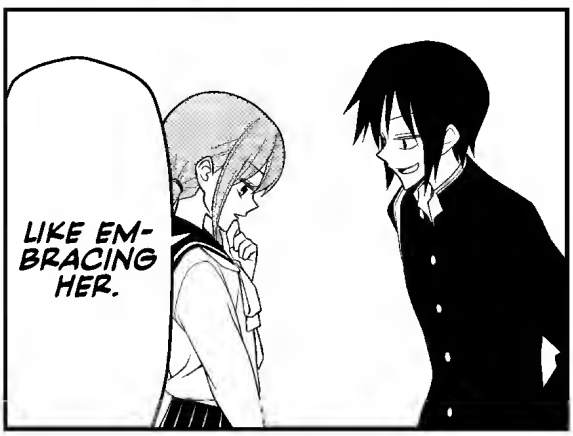

OF COURSE I WOULD.
I'D PROBABLY BE CREEPED OUT.
Y-YEAH...

I BET THE GIRL I LIKE WOULD SAY THE SAME THING.
HUH? REALLY?
THAT SOUNDS LIKE A PAIN.

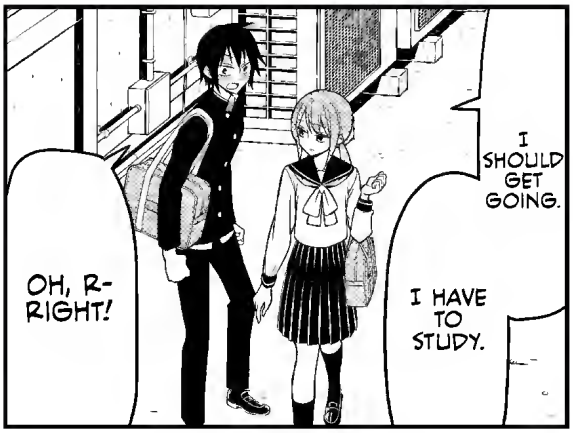
BUT YOU'RE A GOOD GUY, SUGAWARA-KUN.
I MIGHT LET IT SLIDE IF I WERE HER.

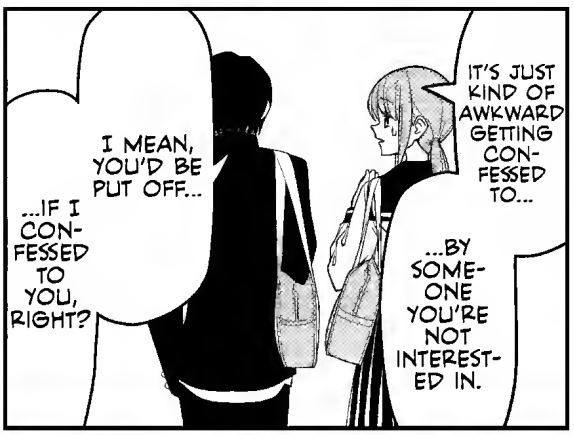
WHAT DO YOU THINK I SHOULD DO?
HMM.
MAYBE YOU SHOULD TRY BEING A BIT MORE FORCEFUL.

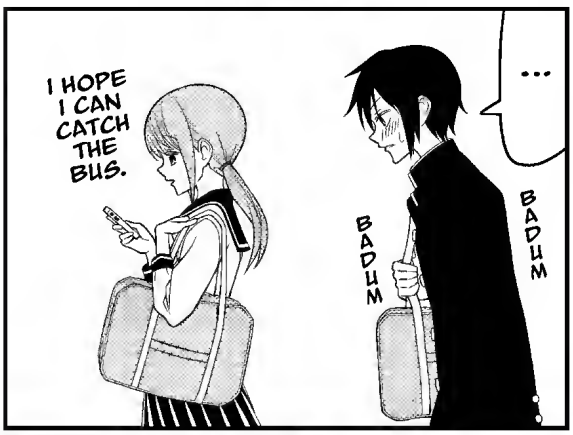
DOES THAT HELP?
?
...

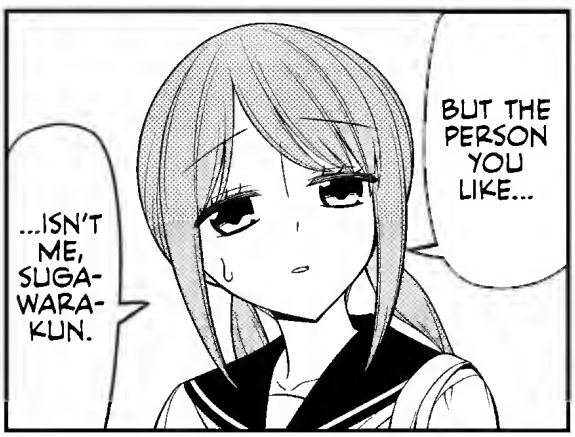

LIKE EMBRACING HER.

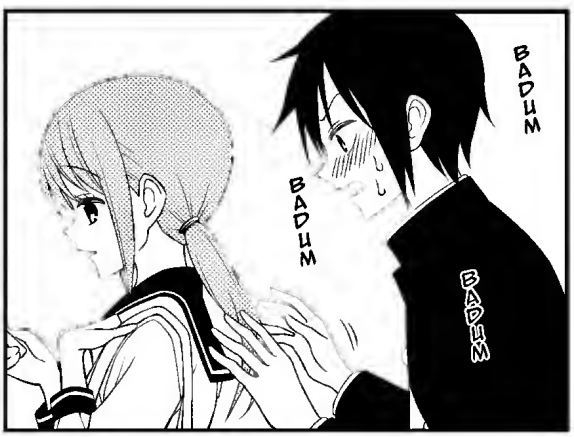
Y'KNOW,
I THINK I'LL GIVE UP ON CONFESSING.
WHAT?!
WHY?!


I SHOULD GET GOING.
I HAVE TO STUDY.
OH, R-RIGHT!

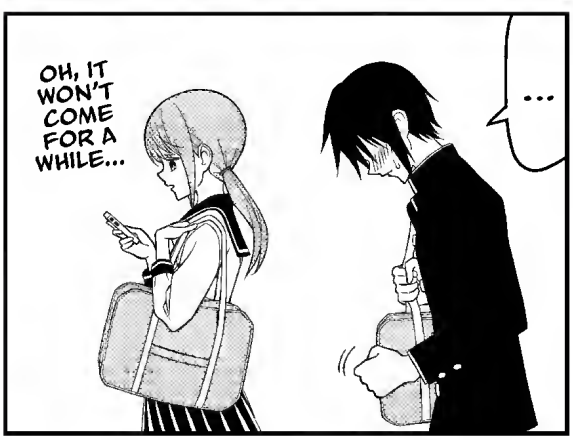

IT'S JUST KIND OF AWKWARD GETTING CONFESSED TO...
...BY SOMEONE YOU'RE NOT INTERESTED IN.
I MEAN, YOU'D BE PUT OFF...
...IF I CONFESSED TO YOU, RIGHT?

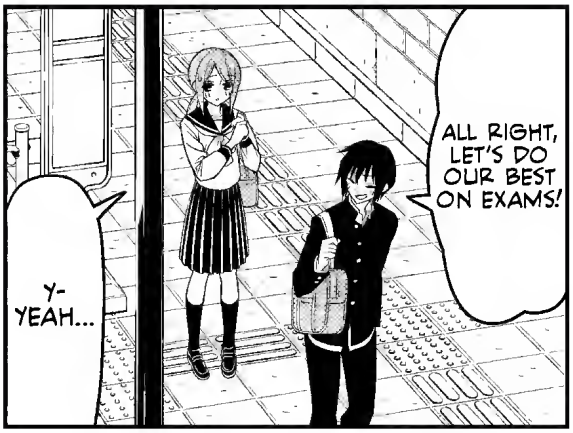

...
BADUM
BADUM
I HOPE I CAN CATCH THE BUS.

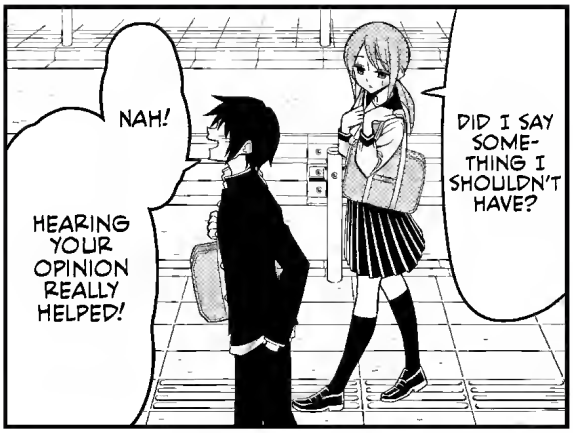

BUT THE PERSON YOU LIKE...
...ISN'T ME, SUGAWARA-KUN.

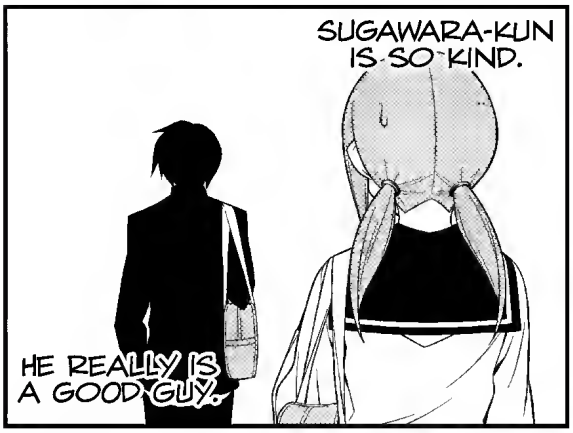

BADUM
BADUM
BADUM

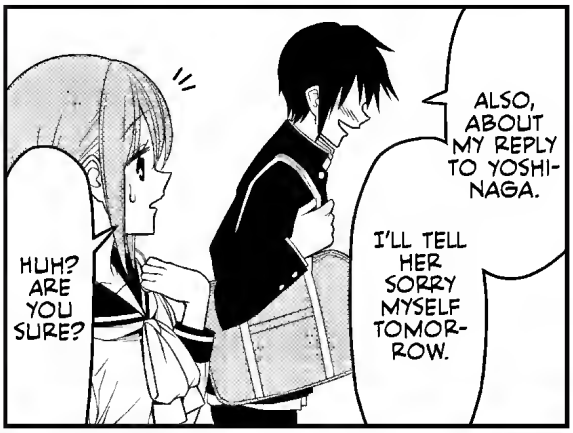
IF YOU SAY YOU'D BE UNCOMFORTABLE ...
...THEN IT'S PROBABLY NO GOOD.

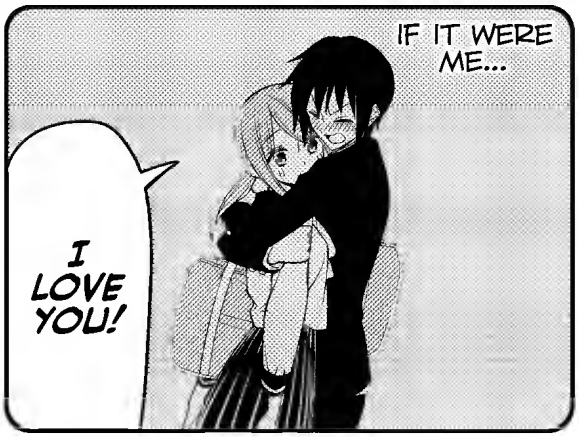

...
OH, IT WON'T COME FOR A WHILE...

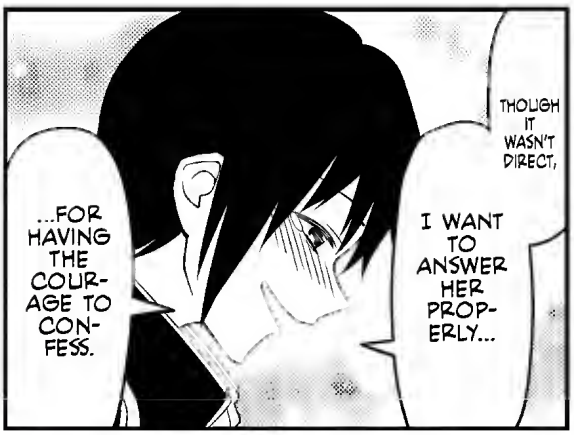

ALL RIGHT, LET'S DO OUR BEST ON EXAMS!
Y-YEAH...

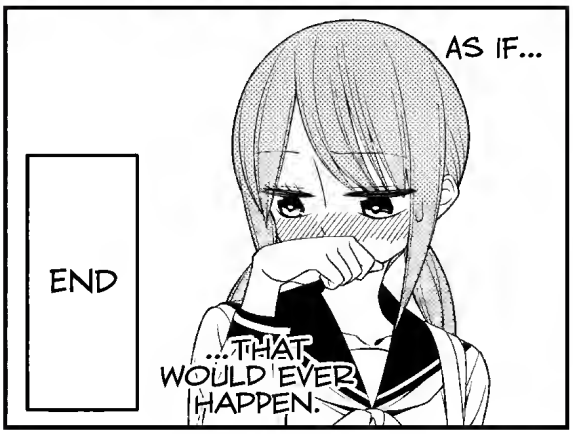

DID I SAY SOMETHING I SHOULDN'T HAVE?
NAH!
HEARING YOUR OPINION REALLY HELPED!

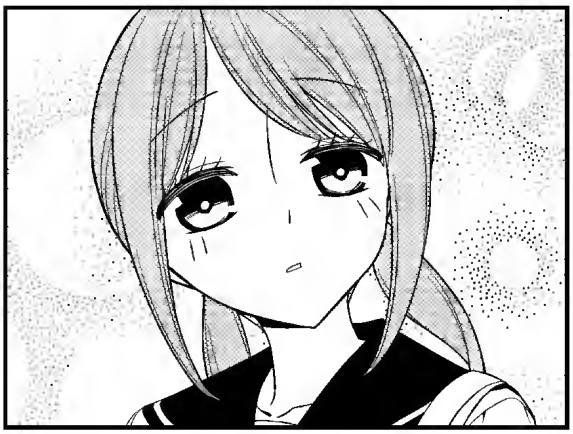

SUGAWARA-KUN IS SO KIND.
HE REALLY IS A GOOD GUY.


ALSO, ABOUT MY REPLY TO YOSHINAGA.
I'LL TELL HER SORRY MYSELF TOMORROW.
HUH? ARE YOU SURE?

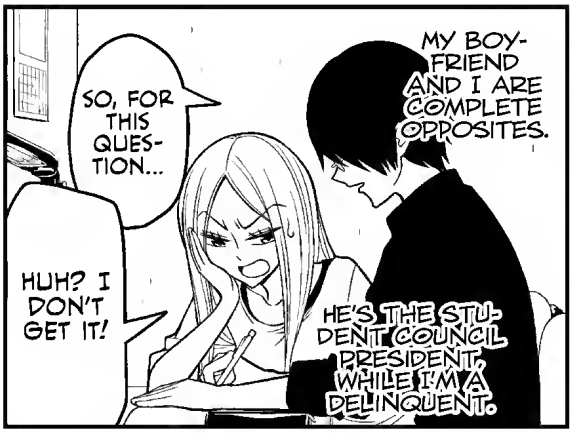

IF IT WERE ME...
I LOVE YOU!

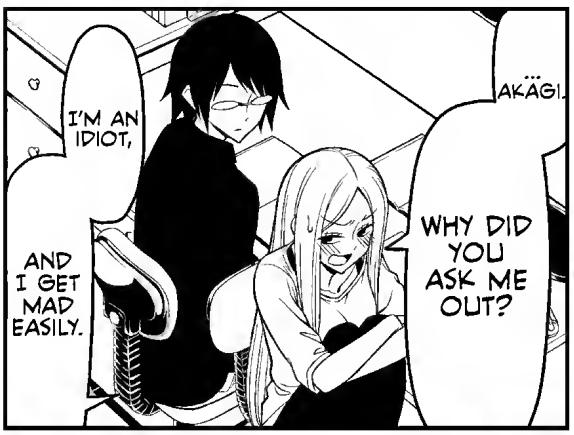

THOUGH IT WASN'T DIRECT,
I WANT TO ANSWER HER PROPERLY...
...FOR HAVING THE COURAGE TO CONFESS.

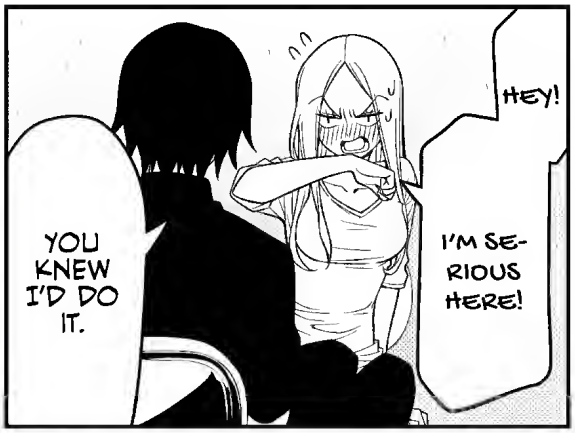

AS IF...
...THAT WOULD EVER HAPPEN.
END

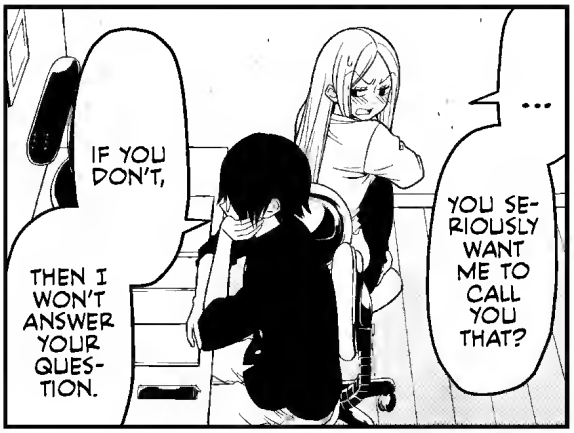


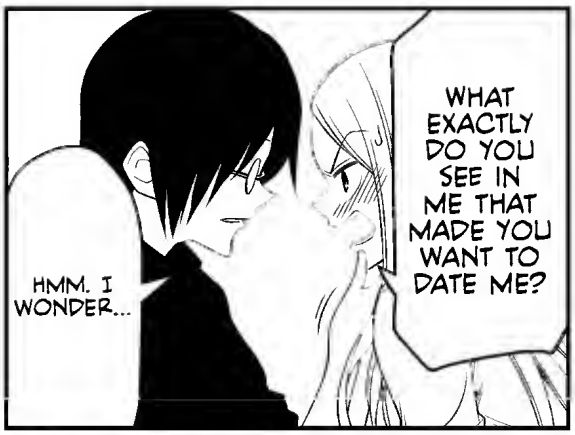
# Dictatorship

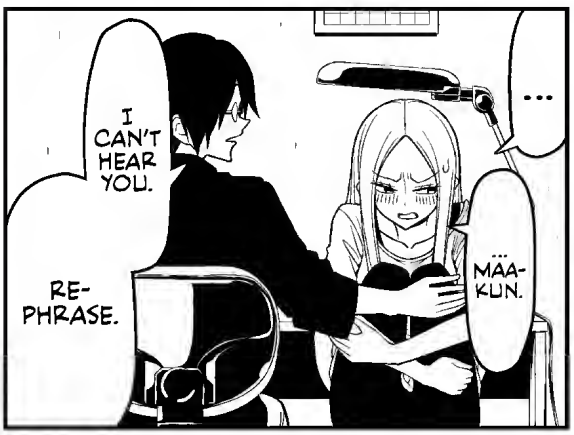


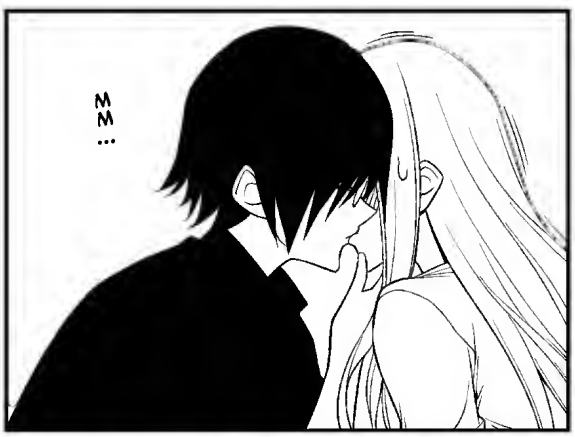




HEY!
I'M SERIOUS HERE!
YOU KNEW I'D DO IT.

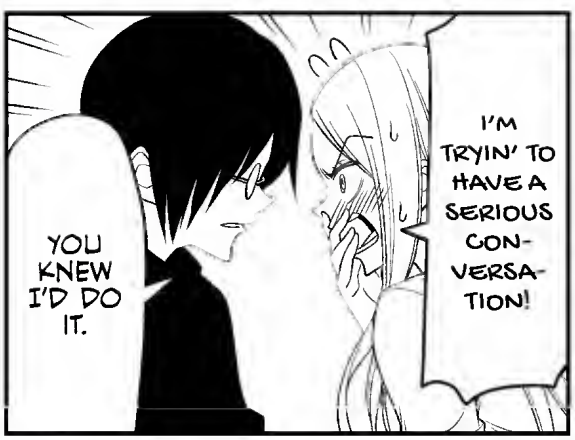

...
YOU SERIOUSLY WANT ME TO CALL YOU THAT?
IF YOU DON'T,
THEN I WON'T ANSWER YOUR QUESTION.

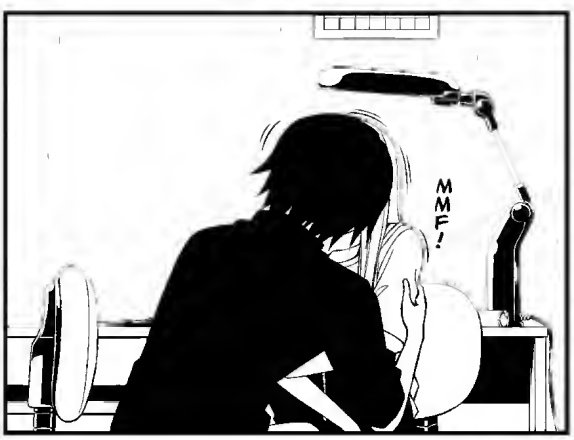

WHAT EXACTLY DO YOU SEE IN ME THAT MADE YOU WANT TO DATE ME?
HMM. I WONDER...


...
...MAA-KUN.
I CAN'T HEAR YOU.
RE-PHRASE.


MM...

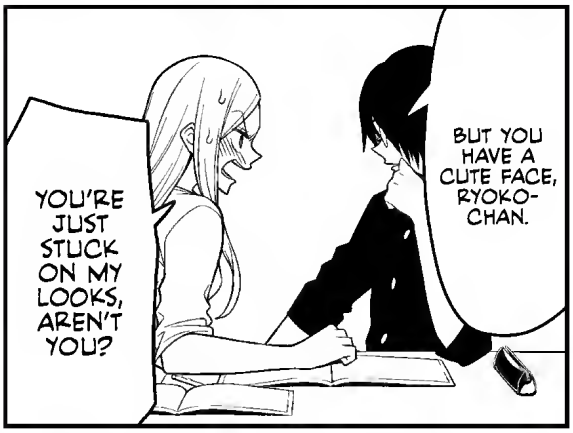
...
MAA-KUN!


I'M TRYIN' TO HAVE A SERIOUS CONVERSATION!
YOU KNEW I'D DO IT.

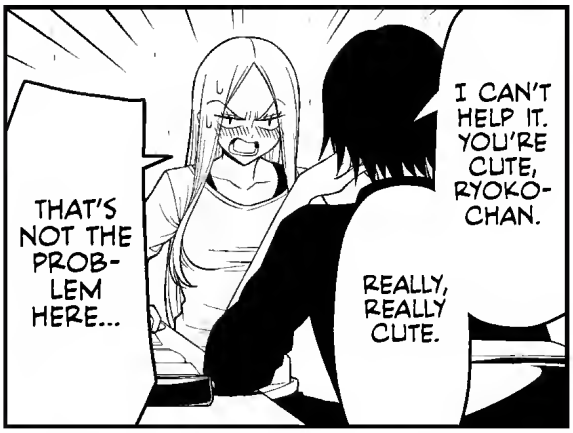

MMF!

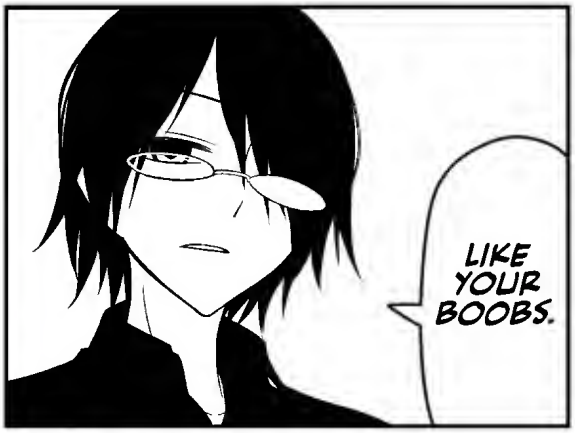
RYOKO-CHAN'S GOOD POINTS?
JOLT
HUH?!
YOUR FACE, I GUESS.
YOU DON'T CARE ABOUT MY PERSONALITY, THEN?!

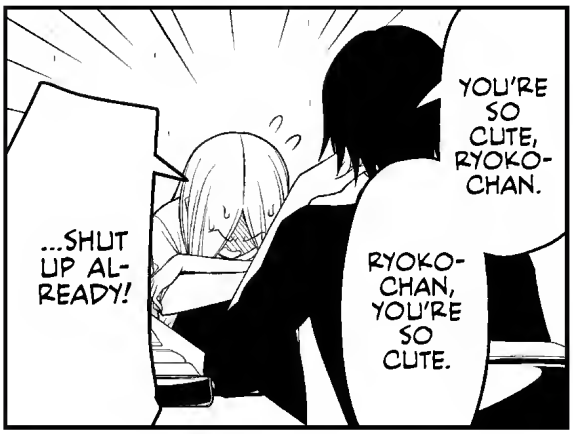

THEN IF A CUTER GIRL COMES AROUND, WILL YOU JUST JUMP SHIP TO HER?!
IT'S POSSIBLE...
DROP DEAD!


BUT YOU HAVE A CUTE FACE, RYOKO-CHAN.
YOU'RE JUST STUCK ON MY LOOKS, AREN'T YOU?

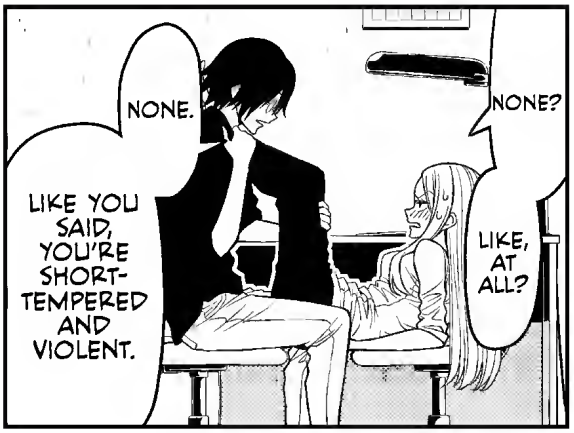
DON'T POUT.
YOU HAVE A LOT OF OTHER GOOD TRAITS.

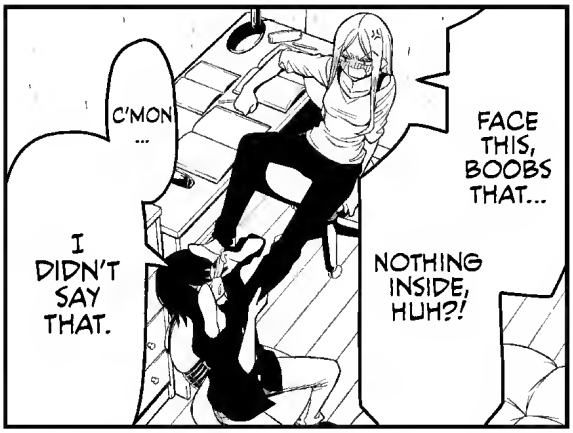

I CAN'T HELP IT. YOU'RE CUTE, RYOKO-CHAN.
REALLY, REALLY CUTE.
THAT'S NOT THE PROBLEM HERE...

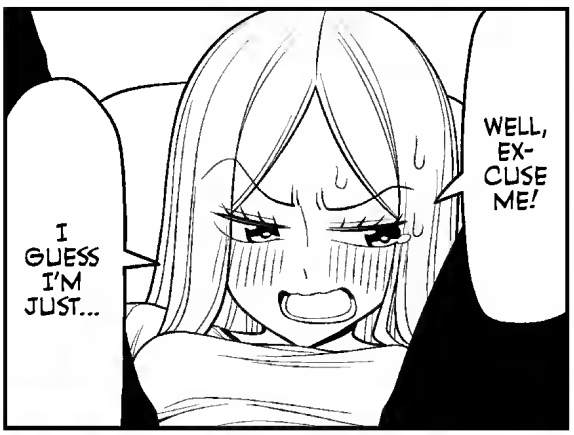

LIKE YOUR BOOBS.

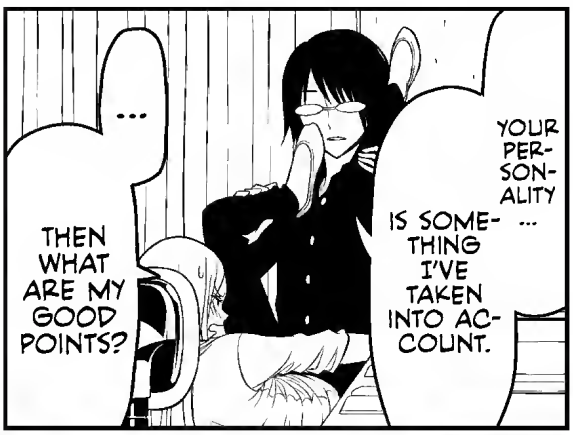

YOU'RE SO CUTE, RYOKO-CHAN.
RYOKO-CHAN, YOU'RE SO CUTE.
...SHUT UP ALREADY!

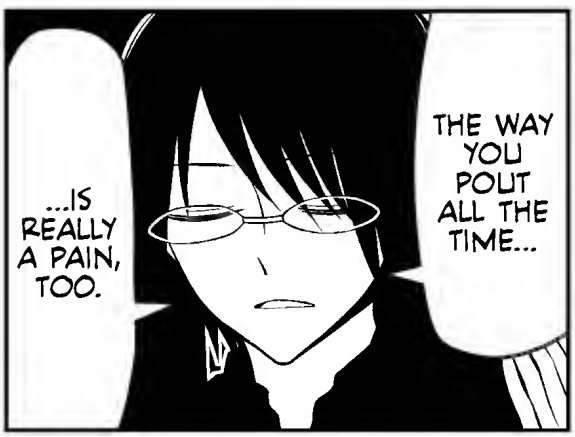
WHACK


NONE.
LIKE YOU SAID, YOU'RE SHORT-TEMPERED AND VIOLENT.
NONE?
LIKE, AT ALL?

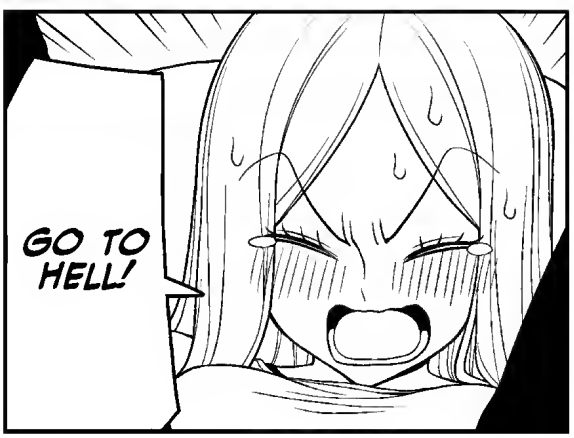

C'MON ...
I DIDN'T SAY THAT.
FACE THIS, BOOBS THAT...
NOTHING INSIDE, HUH?!

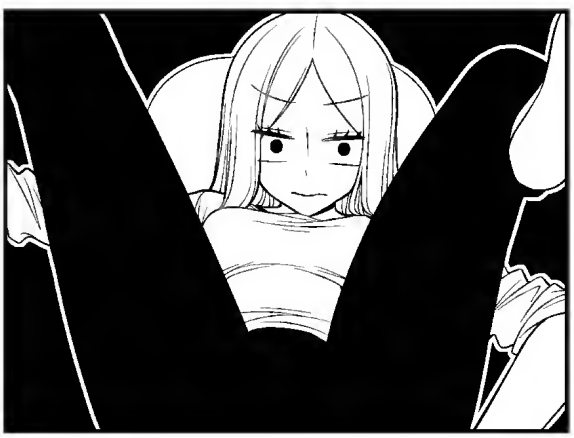

I GUESS I'M JUST...
WELL, EX-CUSE ME!

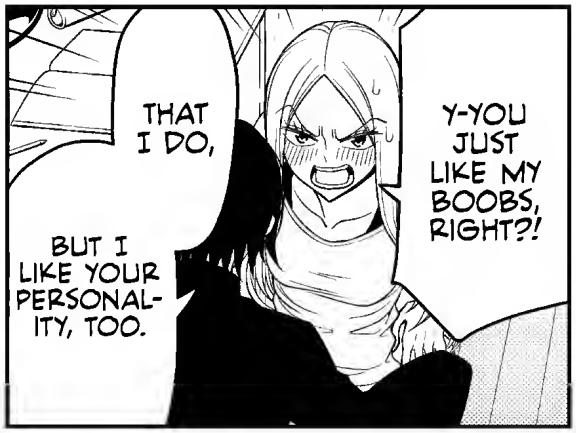

...
THEN WHAT ARE MY GOOD POINTS?
YOUR PER-SON-ALITY ...
IS SOME-THING I'VE TAKEN INTO AC-COUNT.

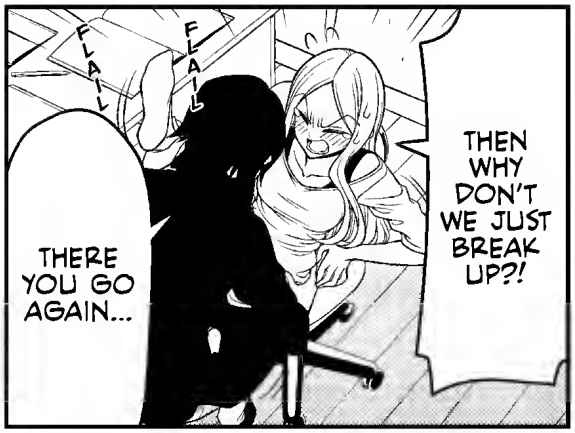

...IS REALLY A PAIN, TOO.
THE WAY YOU POUT ALL THE TIME...

YOU HAVE NONE.

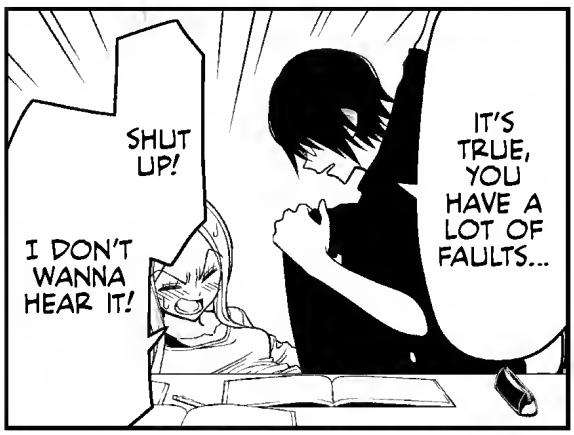

GO TO HELL!

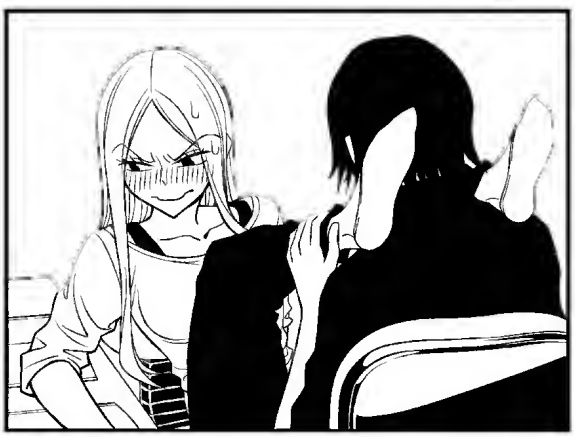


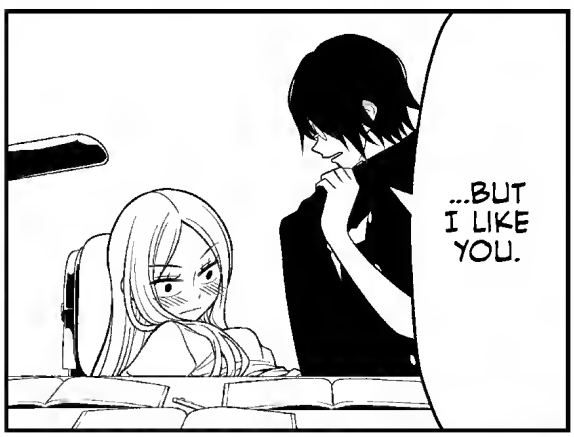

Y-YOU JUST LIKE MY BOOBS, RIGHT?!
THAT I DO,
BUT I LIKE YOUR PERSONALITY, TOO.

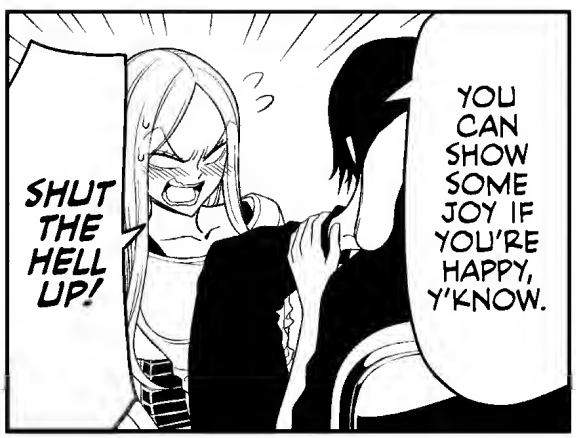

FLAIL
FLAIL
THEN WHY DON'T WE JUST BREAK UP?!
THERE YOU GO AGAIN...

YOUR SHORT TEMPER, YOUR VIOLENT NATURE ...
EVERYTHING ABOUT YOU...
...HAS ME TOTALLY ...
...CRAZY ABOUT YOU, RYOKO-CHAN.

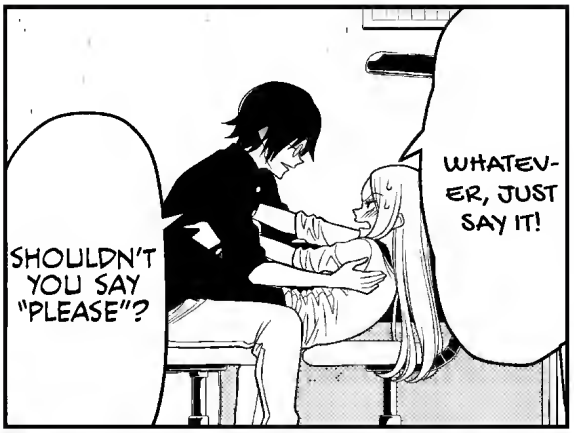

IT'S TRUE, YOU HAVE A LOT OF FAULTS...
SHUT UP!
I DON'T WANNA HEAR IT!

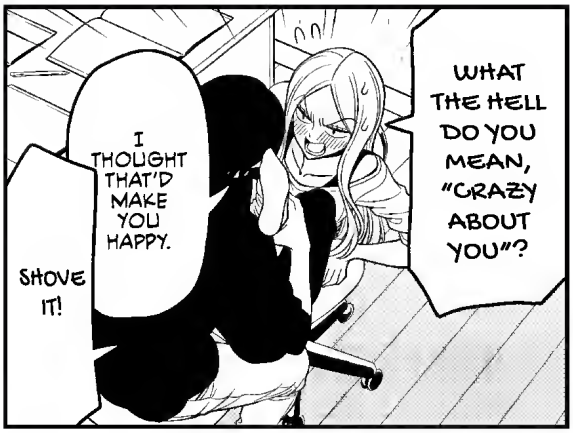



...BUT I LIKE YOU.

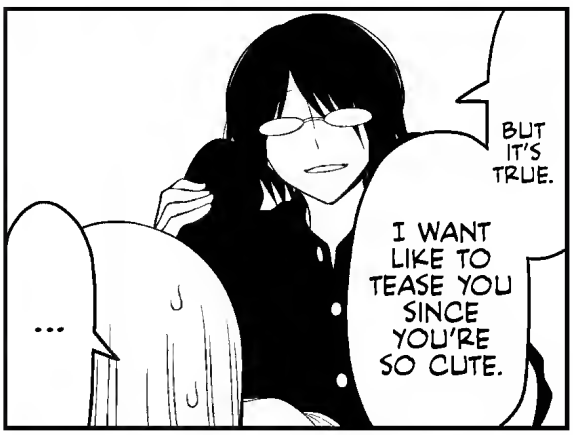

YOU CAN SHOW SOME JOY IF YOU'RE HAPPY, Y'KNOW.
SHUT THE HELL UP!

...

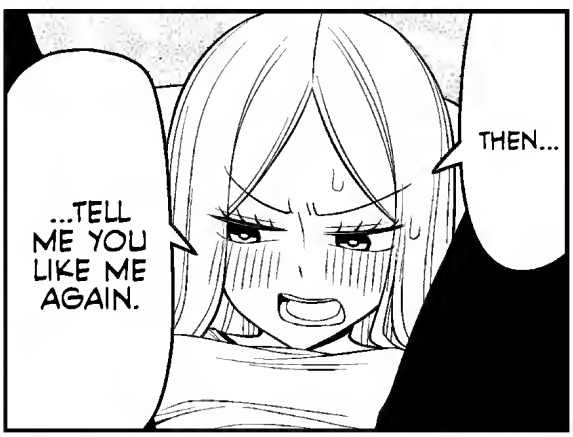

WHATEV-ER, JUST SAY IT!
SHOULDN'T YOU SAY "PLEASE"?

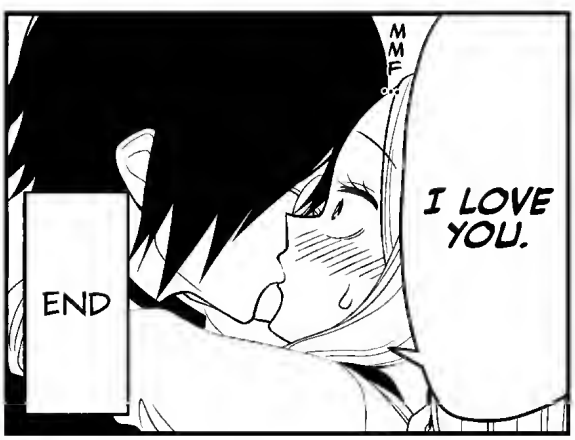

WHAT THE HELL DO YOU MEAN, "CRAZY ABOUT YOU"?
I THOUGHT THAT'D MAKE YOU HAPPY.
SHOVE IT!

...PLEASE.
WHAT HAP-PENED TO "MAA-KUN"?


BUT IT'S TRUE.
I WANT LIKE TO TEASE YOU SINCE YOU'RE SO CUTE.
...

OUT WITH IT!
RYOKO.

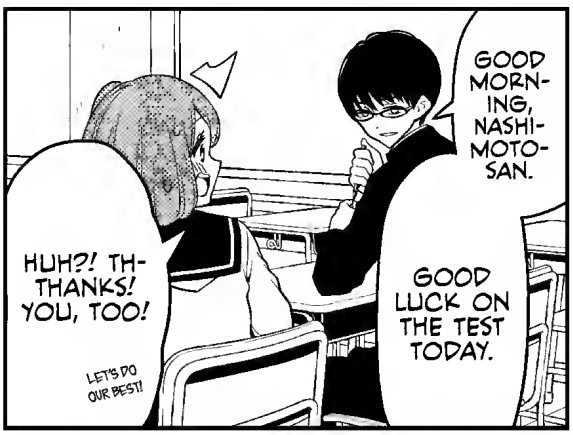

THEN...
...TELL ME YOU LIKE ME AGAIN.


MMF...
I LOVE YOU.
END

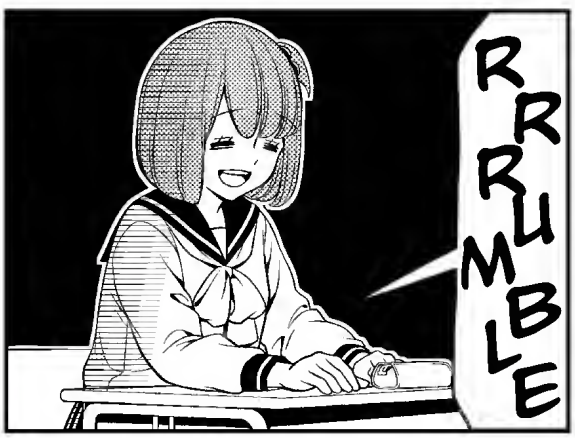
HM?
JUST "LIKE"?

# Siren

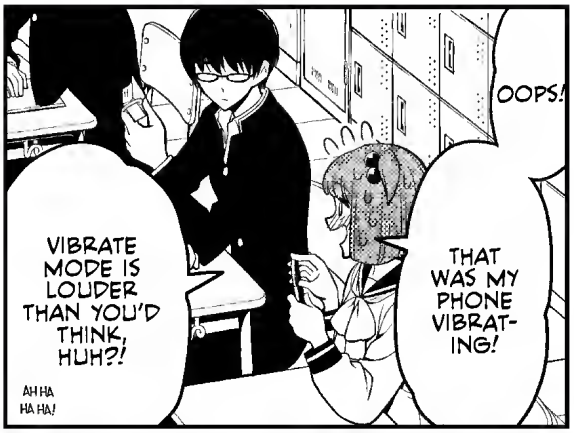
COMPARED TO THE BOY I LIKE...
...I THINK I MIGHT BE A LITTLE CHUBBY.


GOOD MORNING, NASHIMOTO-SAN.
GOOD LUCK ON THE TEST TODAY.
HUH?! TH-THANKS! YOU, TOO!
LET'S DO OUR BEST!

SONOBE-KUN IS SO NICE!
HE GOES OUT OF HIS WAY TO TALK TO A FATTY LIKE ME.
I FEEL LIKE I CAN ACE THIS TEST...


RRRUMBLE

RRRUMBLE
MM! AHM! MM! MMF!
ARE YOU OKAY?

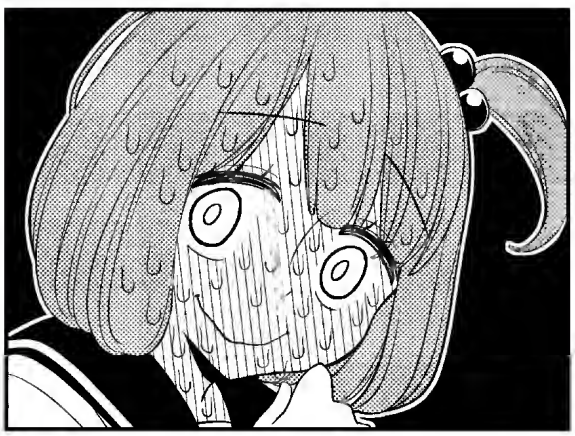

OOPS!
THAT WAS MY PHONE VIBRATING!
VIBRATE MODE IS LOUDER THAN YOU'D THINK, HUH?!
AH HA HA HA!

OH, YEAH! JUST AN ITCH IN MY THROAT!
COUGH! COUGH!

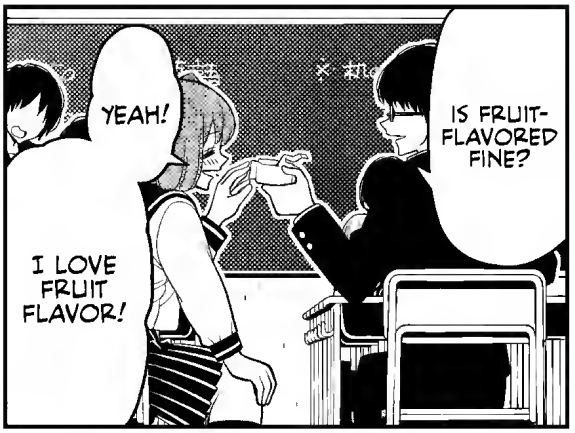
OH, GOD!
WHY IS MY STOMACH GROWLING SO EARLY IN THE MORNING?!
I MADE SURE TO EAT BREAKFAST, TOO!

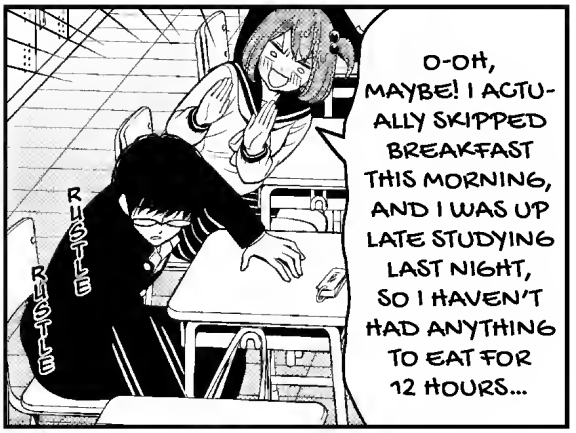
NOT THAT...
I JUST THOUGHT YOU MIGHT BE HUNGRY OR SOMETHING...

WHAT IF SONOBE-KUN THINKS I'M A BIG EATER?
WHAT IF HE THINKS I'M JUST A FATTY?



IF THAT HAPPENS...
...THEN I'LL LOSE WEIGHT!

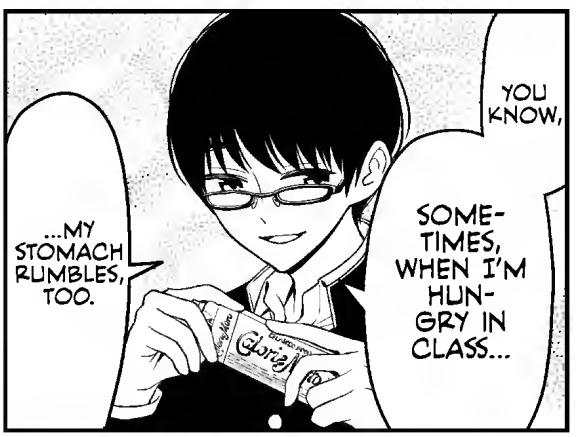

IS FRUIT-FLAVORED FINE?
YEAH!
I LOVE FRUIT FLAVOR!

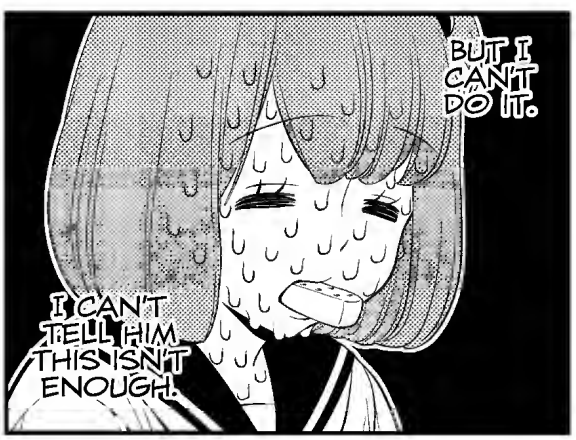

O-OH, MAYBE! I ACTUALLY SKIPPED BREAKFAST THIS MORNING, AND I WAS UP LATE STUDYING LAST NIGHT, SO I HAVEN'T HAD ANYTHING TO EAT FOR 12 HOURS...
RUSTLE RUSTLE

REF EE EFA RA TETH STATH. (LET'S EAT BEFORE THE TEST STARTS.)
YEAH!

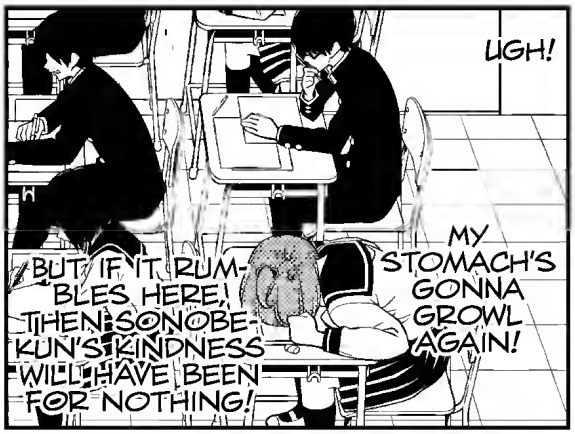
WOULD YOU LIKE SOME?
BADUM
HUH?

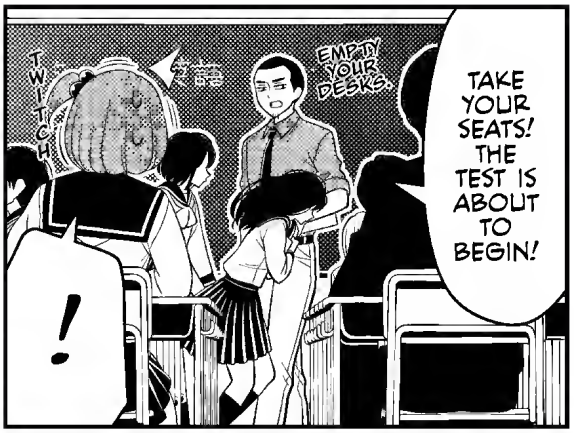
HE DIDN'T MAKE FUN OF ME FOR BEING FAT, AND EVEN GAVE ME FOOD.
SONOBE-KUN IS SO SWEET..


YOU KNOW,
SOMETIMES, WHEN I'M HUNGRY IN CLASS...
...MY STOMACH RUMBLES, TOO.


BUT I CAN'T DO IT.
I CAN'T TELL HIM THIS ISN'T ENOUGH.

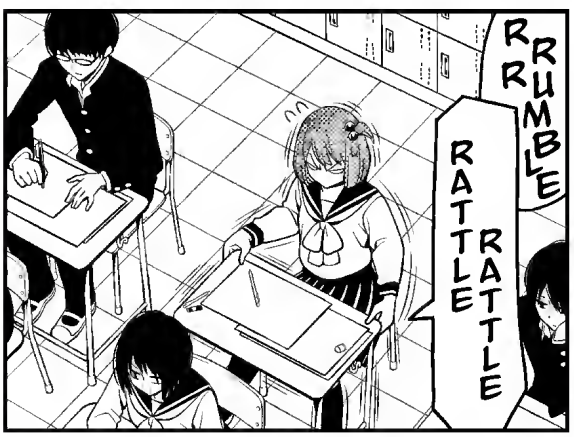
SONOBE-KUN!


UGH!
MY STOMACH'S GONNA GROWL AGAIN!
BUT IF IT RUMBLES HERE, THEN SONOBE-KUN'S KINDNESS WILL HAVE BEEN FOR NOTHING!


TAKE YOUR SEATS! THE TEST IS ABOUT TO BEGIN!
EMPTY YOUR DESKS.
TWITCH
!

IN ORDER TO PAY HIM BACK FOR THE FOOD...
...I CAN'T LET ANY NOISE OUT!

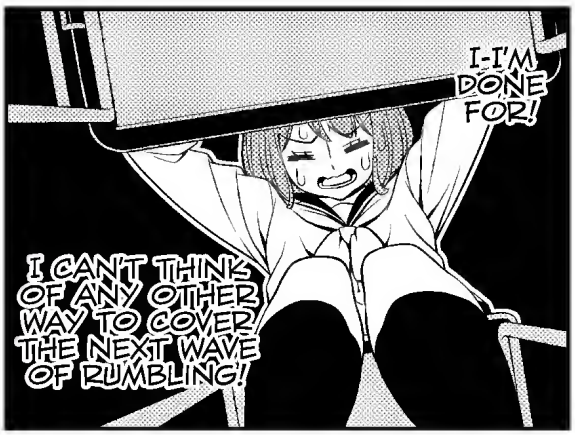
IF IT'S COME TO THIS, I'LL JUST HAVE TO FINISH THE TEST QUICK...
...AND EXCUSE MYSELF FROM CLASS TO GO BUY SOMETHING!

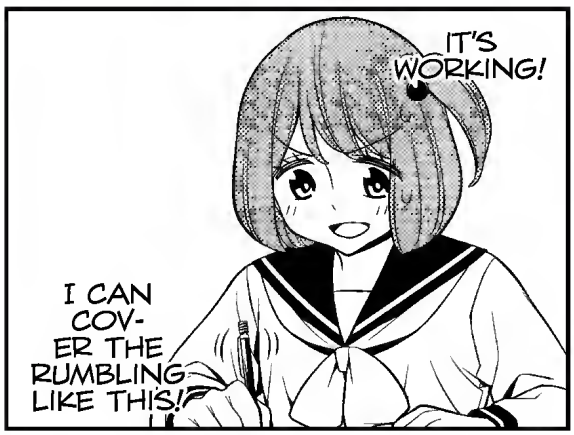

RRR RUMBLE
RATTLE RATTLE

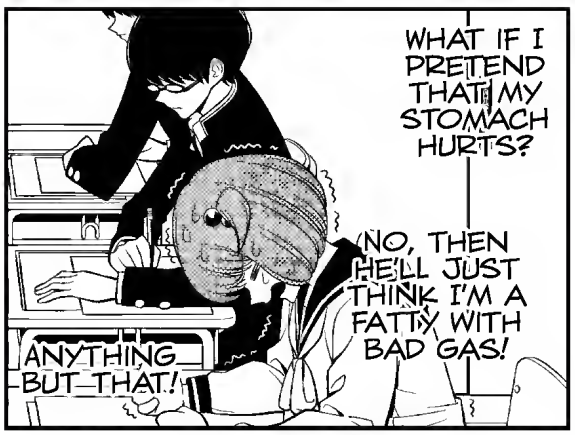
DING DONG
DING DONG
ALL RIGHT, BEGIN.

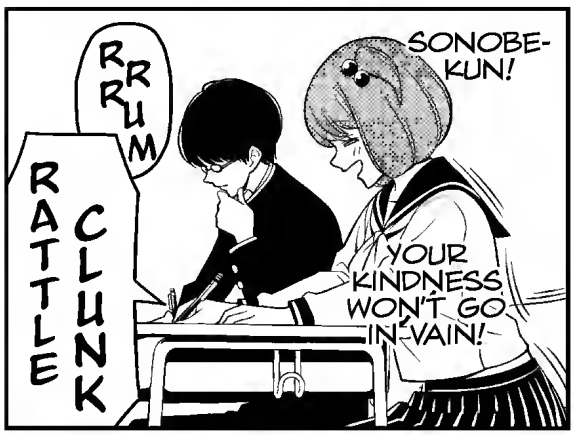
RRR RUMBLE
CLUNK CLUNK

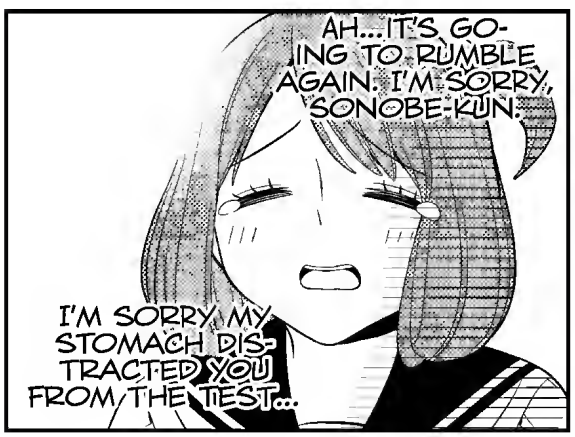
I DON'T GET ANY OF THESE QUESTIONS!


I-I'M DONE FOR!
I CAN'T THINK OF ANY OTHER WAY TO COVER THE NEXT WAVE OF RUMBLING!

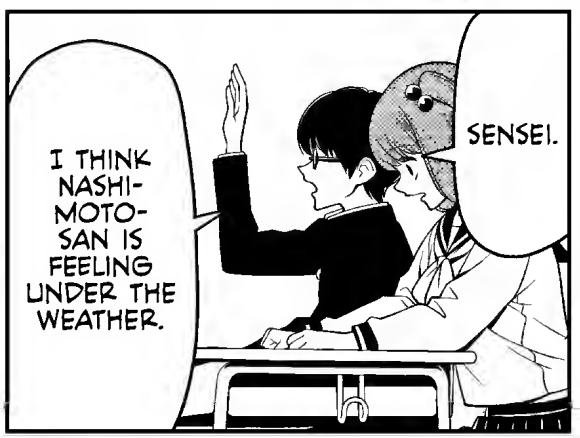

IT'S WORKING!
I CAN COV-ER THE RUMBLING LIKE THIS!

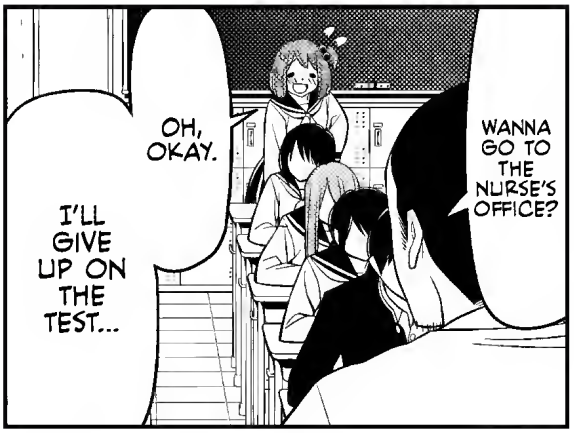

WHAT IF I PRETEND THAT MY STOMACH HURTS?
NO, THEN HE'LL JUST THINK I'M A FATTY WITH BAD GAS!
ANYTHING BUT THAT!

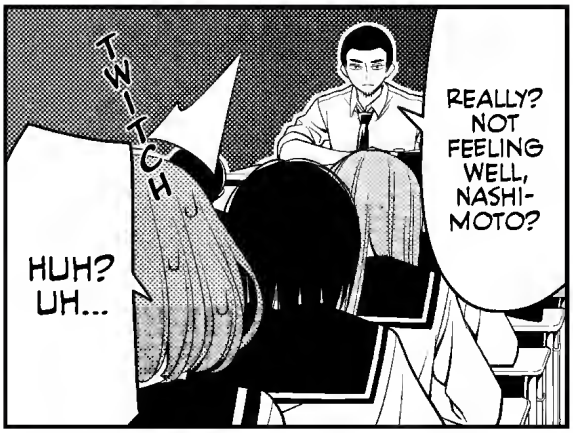

SONOBE-KUN!
RRRUM
RATTLE CLUNK
YOUR KINDNESS WON'T GO IN-VAIN!


AH... IT'S GO-ING TO RUMBLE AGAIN. I'M SORRY, SONOBE-KUN.
I'M SORRY MY STOMACH DIS-TRACTED YOU FROM THE TEST...

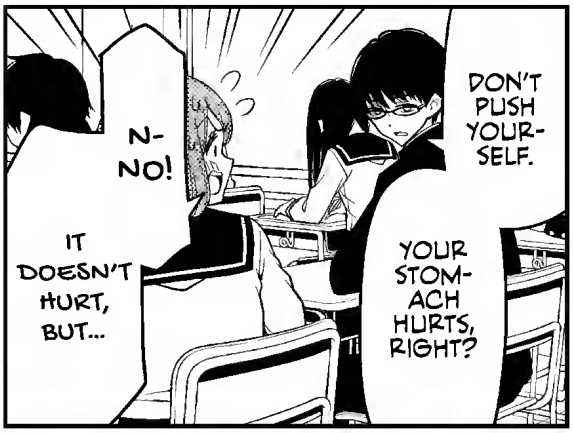
NASHI-MOTO.
KEEP IT DOWN.

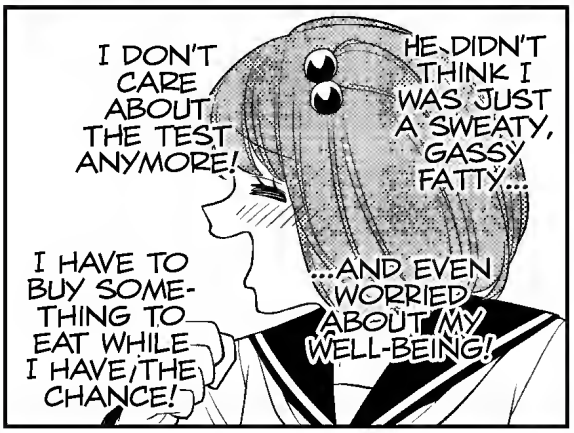

SENSEI.
I THINK NASHI-MOTO-SAN IS FEELING UNDER THE WEATHER.


WANNA GO TO THE NURSE'S OFFICE?
OH, OKAY.
I'LL GIVE UP ON THE TEST...

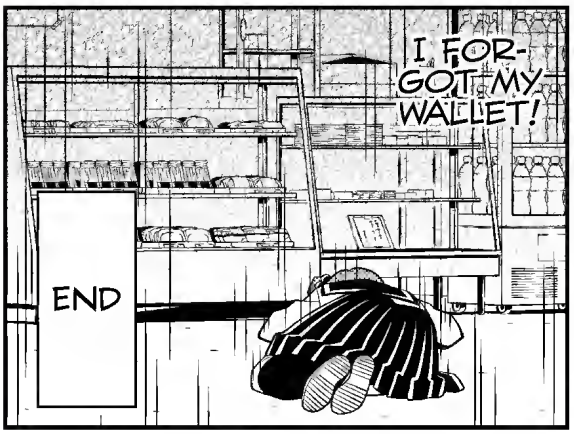

REALLY? NOT FEELING WELL, NASHI-MOTO?
TWITCH
HUH? UH...

TAKE CARE.
Y-YEAH.
THANKS!


DON'T PUSH YOUR-SELF.
N-NO!
IT DOESN'T HURT, BUT...
YOUR STOM-ACH HURTS, RIGHT?

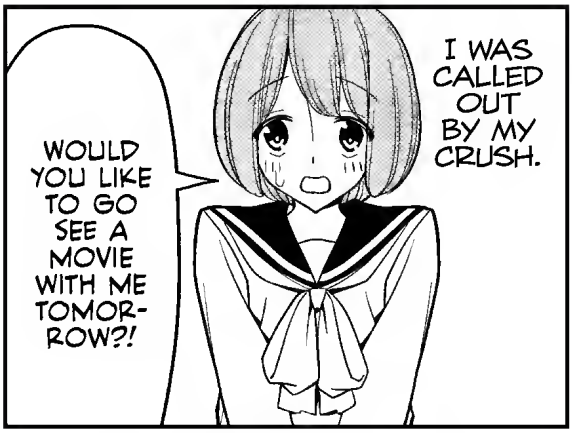

I DON'T CARE ABOUT THE TEST ANYMORE!
HE DIDN'T THINK I WAS JUST A SWEATY, GASSY FATTY...
I HAVE TO BUY SOME-THING TO EAT WHILE I HAVE THE CHANCE!
...AND EVEN WORRIED ABOUT MY WELL-BEING!

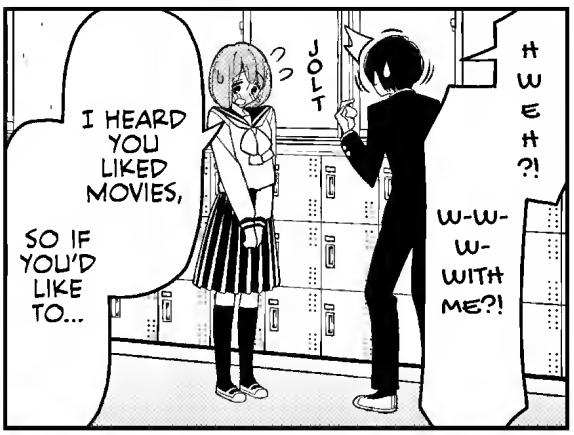
YOUR FACE IS RED AND YOU'RE COVERED IN SWEAT.
DO YOU HAVE A COLD?

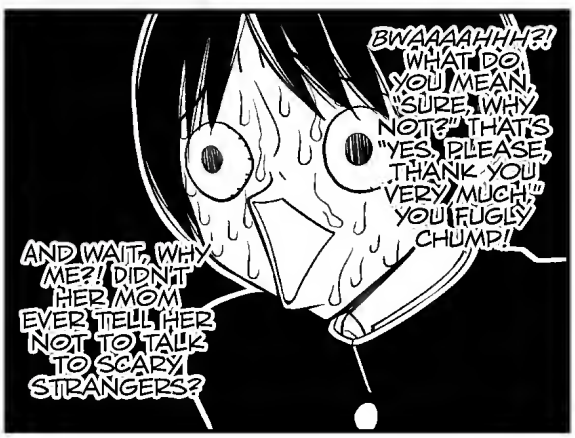

I FOR-GOT MY WALLET!
END

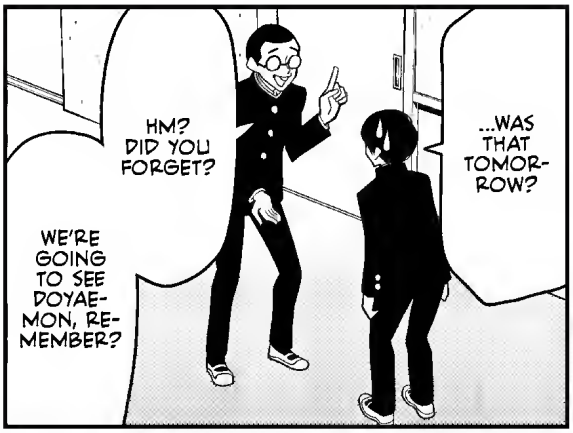
YOU...
YOU MIGHT BE RIGHT.

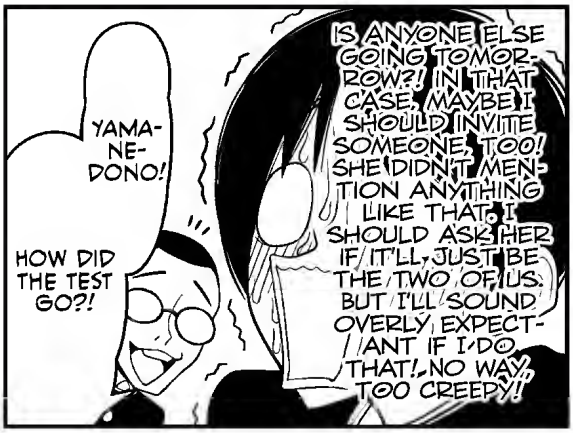
# We Don't Need Women

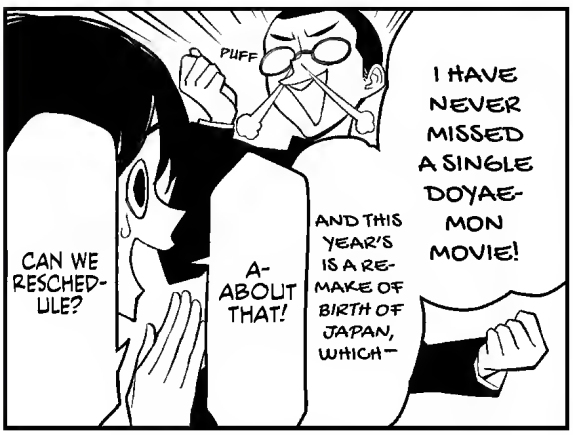


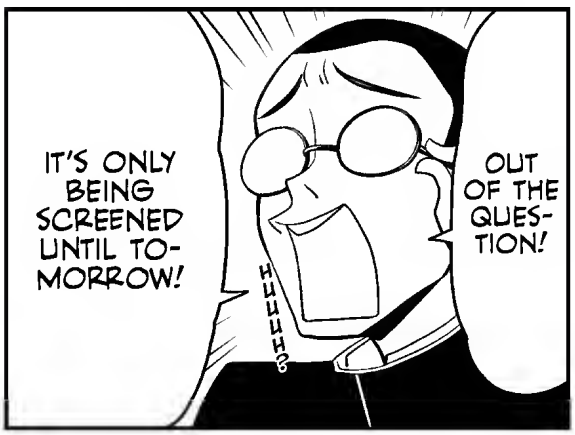


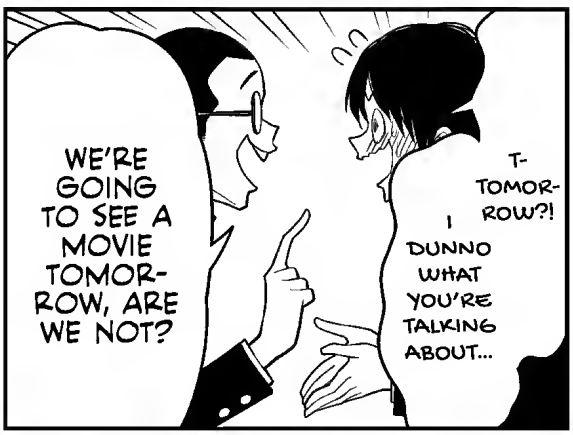

...WAS THAT TOMORROW?
HM? DID YOU FORGET?
WE'RE GOING TO SEE DOYAEMON, REMEMBER?

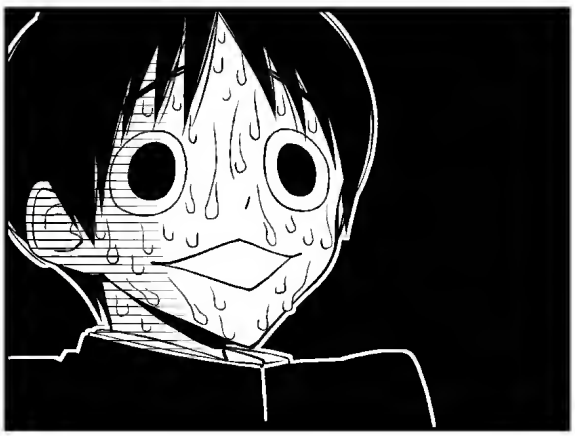

IS ANYONE ELSE GOING TOMORROW?! IN THAT CASE, MAYBE I SHOULD INVITE SOMEONE, TOO! SHE DIDN'T MENTION ANYTHING LIKE THAT, I SHOULD ASK HER IF IT'LL JUST BE THE TWO OF US. BUT I'LL SOUND OVERLY EXPECTANT IF I DO THAT! NO WAY, TOO CREEPY!
YAMANE-DONO!
HOW DID THE TEST GO?!

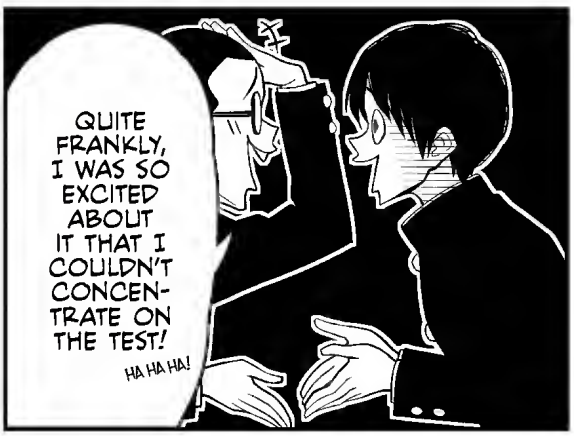

I HAVE NEVER MISSED A SINGLE DOYAEMON MOVIE!
AND THIS YEAR'S IS A REMAKE OF BIRTH OF JAPAN, WHICH—
A-ABOUT THAT!
CAN WE RESCHEDULE?
PUFF

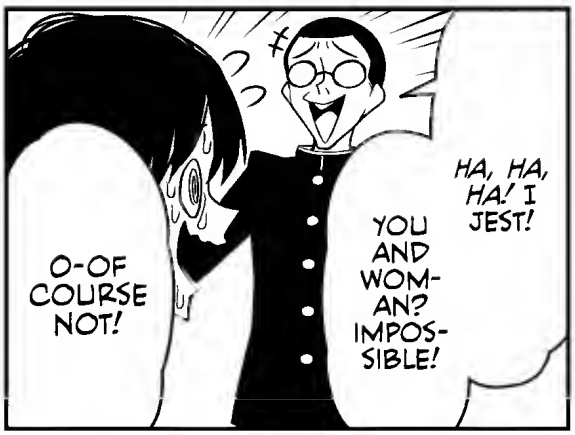
M-MOTOYAMA-KUN!
N-NO BIGGIE.
AHAAA!
YOU WERE THINKING ABOUT TOMORROW, WEREN'T YOU?

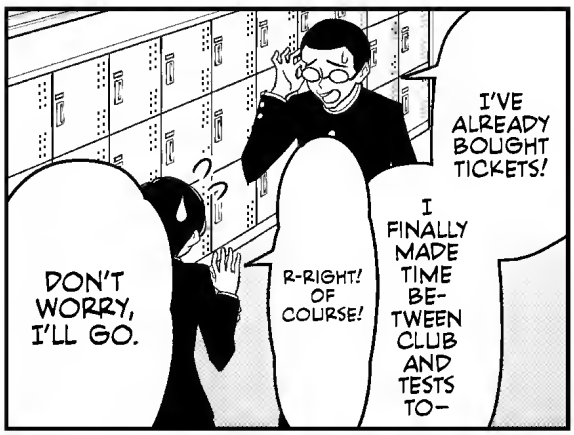

OUT OF THE QUESTION!
IT'S ONLY BEING SCREENED UNTIL TOMORROW!
HUHUHU


T-TOMORROW?!
I DUNNO WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT...
WE'RE GOING TO SEE A MOVIE TOMORROW, ARE WE NOT?

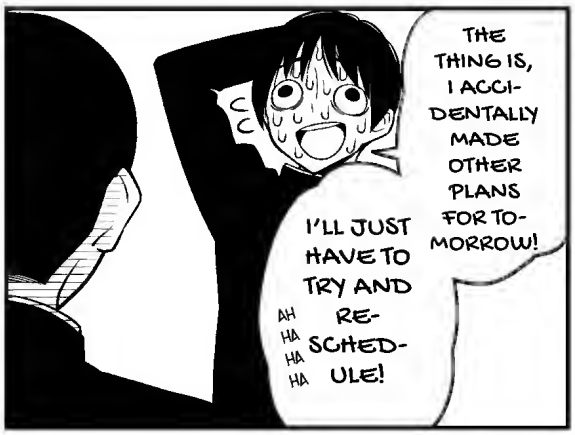


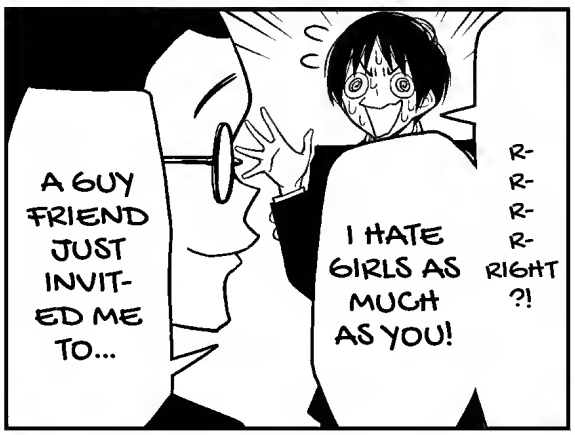

QUITE FRANKLY, I WAS SO EXCITED ABOUT IT THAT I COULDN'T CONCENTRATE ON THE TEST!
HA HA HA!


O-OF COURSE NOT!
YOU AND WOM-AN? IMPOS-SIBLE!
HA, HA, HA! I JEST!

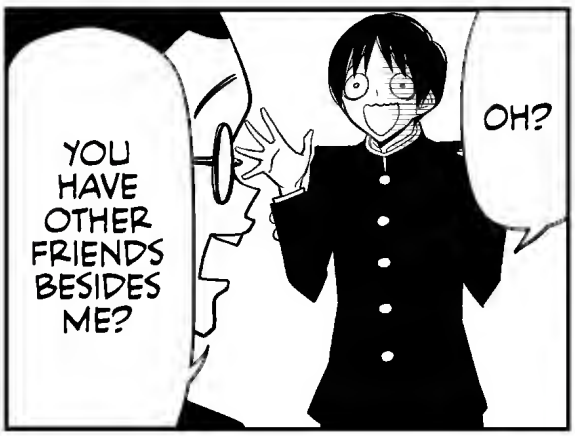

DON'T WORRY, I'LL GO.
R-RIGHT! OF COURSE!
I FINALLY MADE TIME BE-TWEEN CLUB AND TESTS TO-
I'VE ALREADY BOUGHT TICKETS!

ON THOSE SHE-DEVILS!
...TO SPEND OUR PRE-CIOUS YOUTH ...
IT WOULD BE A WASTE...
THOSE ARROGANT SWINE WHO LAUGH AT US...


AH HA HA HA
I'LL JUST HAVE TO TRY AND RE-SCHED-ULE!
THE THING IS, I ACCI-DENTALLY MADE OTHER PLANS FOR TO-MORROW!


A GUY FRIEND JUST INVIT-ED ME TO...
I HATE GIRLS AS MUCH AS YOU!
R-R-R-R-RIGHT ?!

...PLANS WITH A WOMAN, DO YOU?
YOU DON'T MEAN...


YOU HAVE OTHER FRIENDS BESIDES ME?
OH?

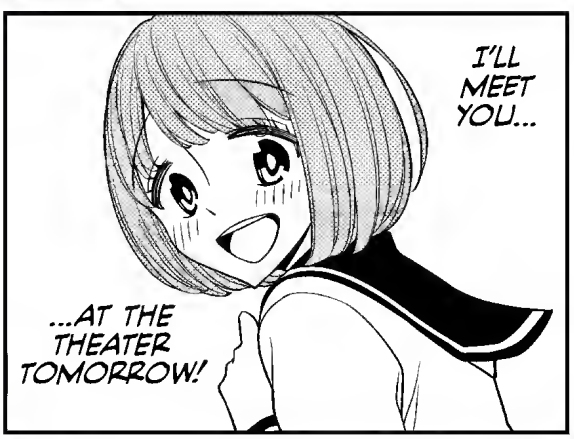
HMM?

HE... HE'S A FRIEND FROM MIDDLE SCHOOL!
SOMETIMES HE TEXTS ME TO HANG OUT!
EGADS! I NEVER KNEW!

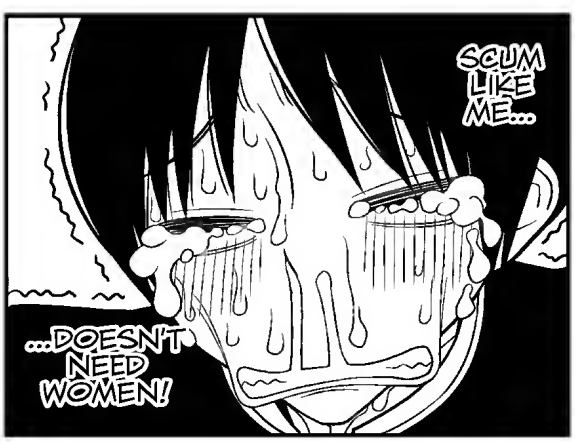

HE LET ME CANCEL, EVEN THOUGH HE WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO IT SO MUCH!
I SUPPOSE I'LL HAVE TO GO SEE DOYAEMON ALONE.
MOTOYAMA-KUN, YOU'RE A SAINT!

IN THAT CASE, I, TOMOMICHI MOTOYAMA,
SHALL BEND THE KNEE TO THIS FRIEND OF YOURS.
TWITCH
HUH?!


AND YET I...
I LIED TO HIM FOR A WOMAN!

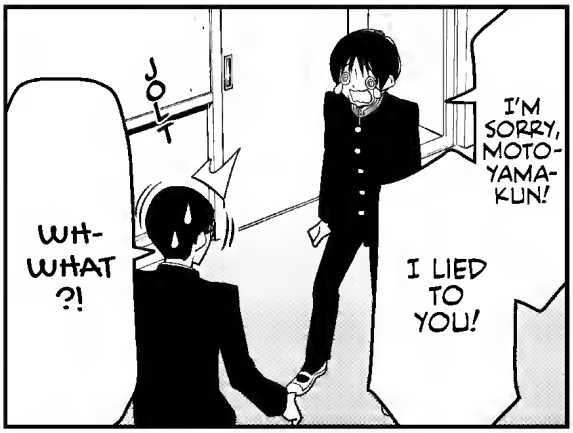

FOR OUTCASTS, SUCH AS US...
FRIENDSHIPS ARE TO BE CHERISHED ABOVE ALL!
INTRODUCE ME TO YOUR FRIEND SOMETIME!

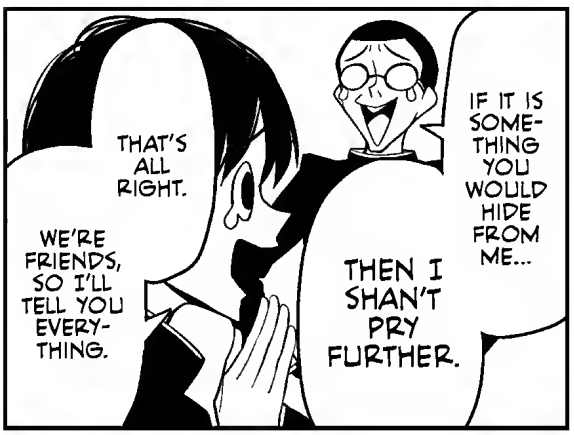

I'LL MEET YOU...
...AT THE THEATER TOMORROW!

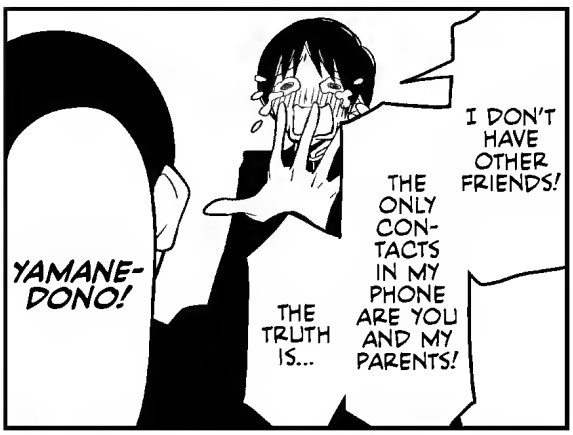

MO...
BUHH
MOTOYAMA-KUUUN!

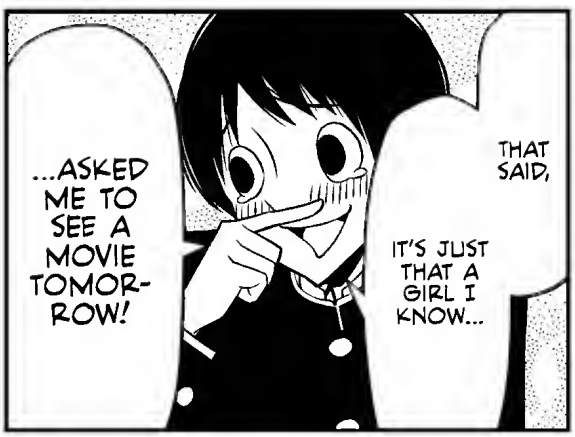

SCUM LIKE ME...
...DOESN'T NEED WOMEN!

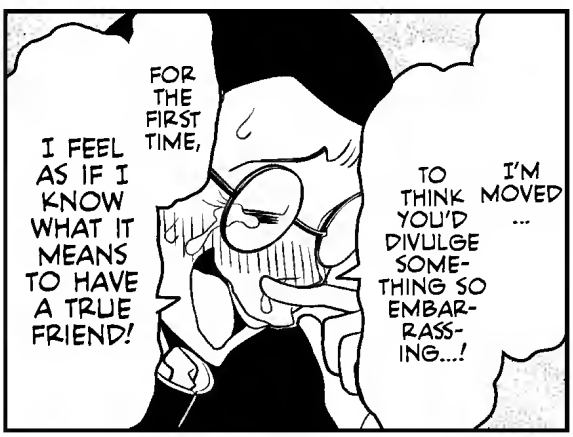
DON'T WORRY ABOUT TOMOR-ROW.
SEE TO WHATEVER IT IS YOU MUST.
BUT I HAVEN'T TOLD YOU THE TRUTH YET...

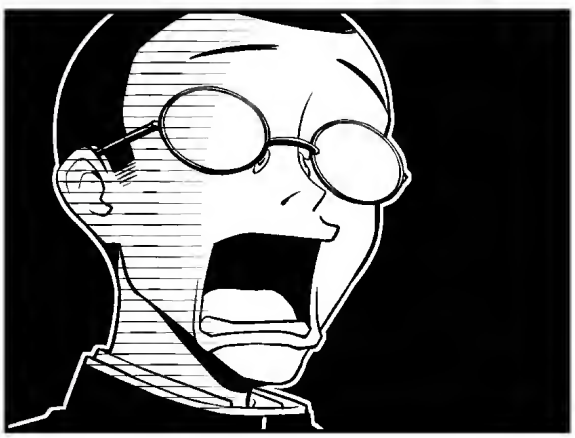

I'M SORRY, MOTO-YAMA-KUN!
JOLT
I LIED TO YOU!
WH-WHAT ?!

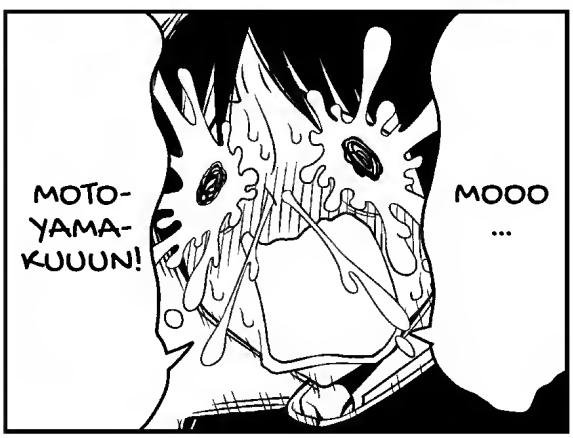

IF IT IS SOME-THING YOU WOULD HIDE FROM ME...
THAT'S ALL RIGHT.
WE'RE FRIENDS, SO I'LL TELL YOU EVERY-THING.
THEN I SHAN'T PRY FURTHER.

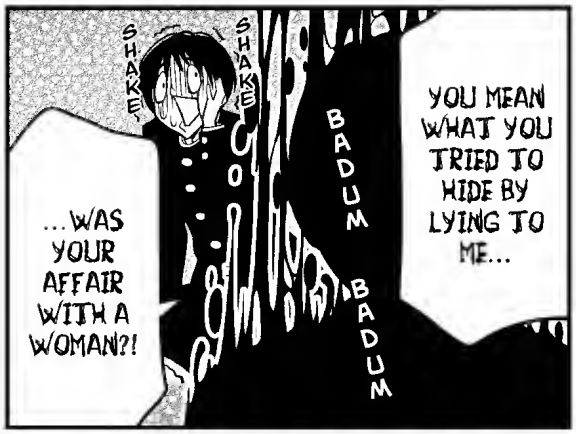

I DON'T HAVE OTHER FRIENDS!
THE ONLY CON-TACTS IN MY PHONE ARE YOU AND MY PARENTS!
YAMANE-DONO!
THE TRUTH IS...

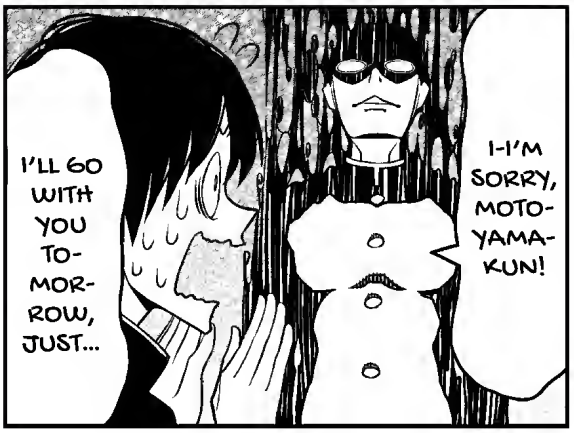

THAT SAID,
IT'S JUST THAT A GIRL I KNOW...
...ASKED ME TO SEE A MOVIE TOMOR-ROW!


FOR THE FIRST TIME,
I FEEL AS IF I KNOW WHAT IT MEANS TO HAVE A TRUE FRIEND!
I'M MOVED ...
TO THINK YOU'D DIVULGE SOME-THING SO EMBAR-RASS-ING...!



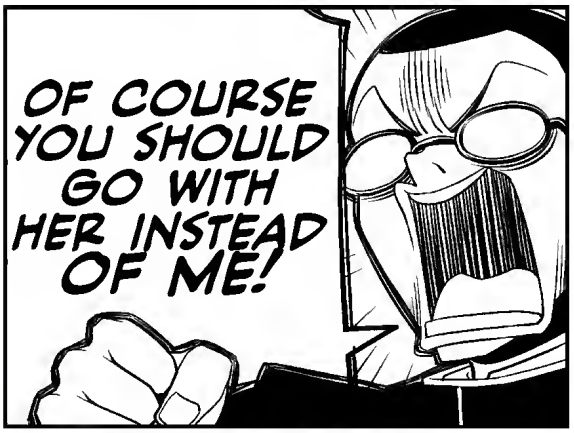

MOTO-YAMA-KUUUN!
MOOO ...

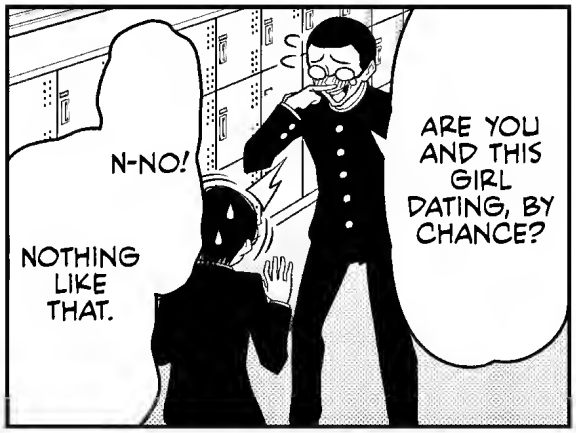

THE THING IS, I MET UP WITH HER FOR LUNCH BEFORE, BUT WE BARELY TALKED THEN, SO I CAN'T EVEN FATHOM WHY SHE INVITED ME OUT AGAIN. THE BEST I CAN COME UP WITH IS THAT SHE'S AN ILLUSION ONLY I CAN SEE AND—
BLAH BLAH BLAH


YOU MEAN WHAT YOU TRIED TO HIDE BY LYING TO ME...
BADUM BADUM
SHAKE SHAKE
...WAS YOUR AFFAIR WITH A WOMAN?!

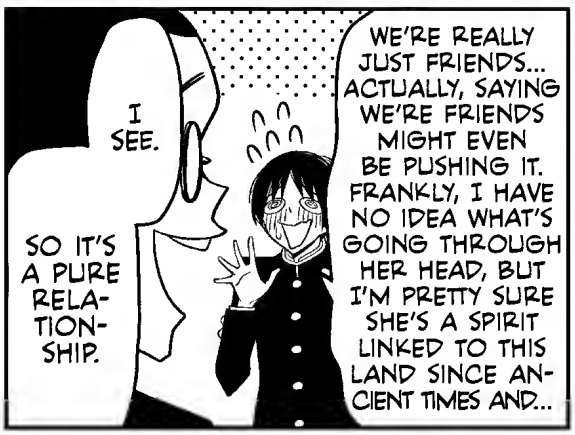
WHOA
HYAAAAHHHHH!

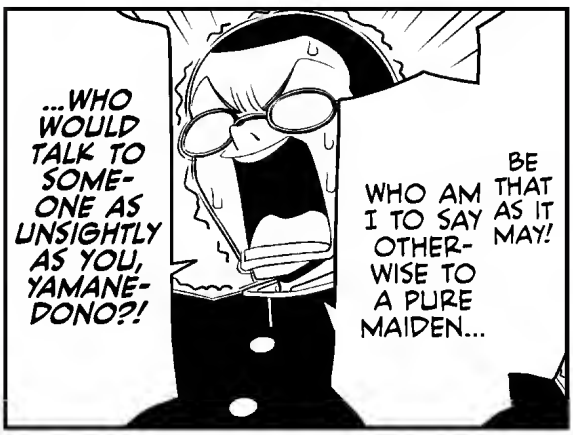

I-I'M SORRY, MOTO-YAMA-KUN!
I'LL GO WITH YOU TO-MOR-ROW, JUST...

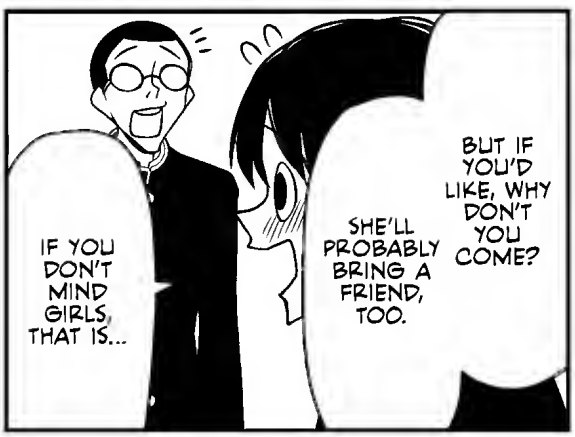

OF COURSE YOU SHOULD GO WITH HER INSTEAD OF ME!

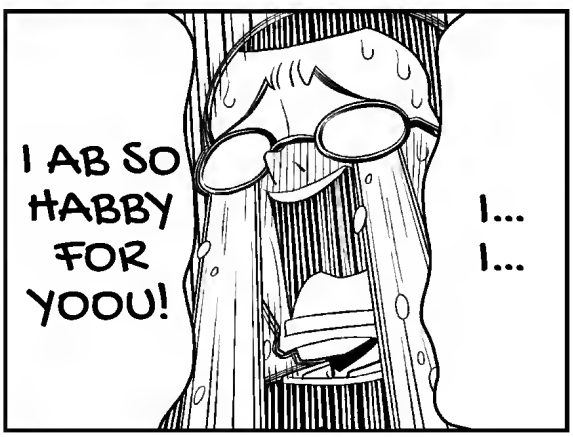

ARE YOU AND THIS GIRL DATING, BY CHANCE?
N-NO!
NOTHING LIKE THAT.

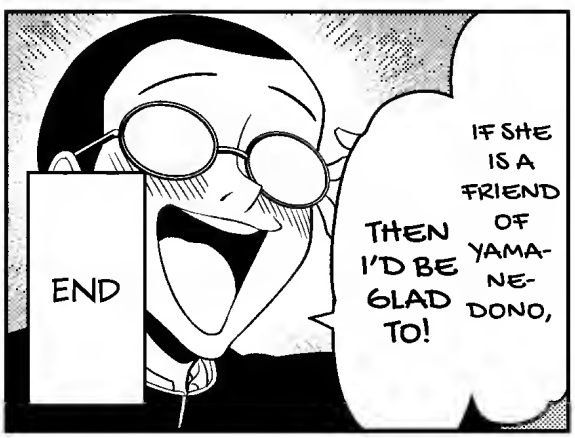
PERSONALLY, I DESPISE WOMEN!
I WANT TO TEAR OUT THEIR EYES FOR LOOKING AT ME AS IF I'M TRASH!
HÜH?

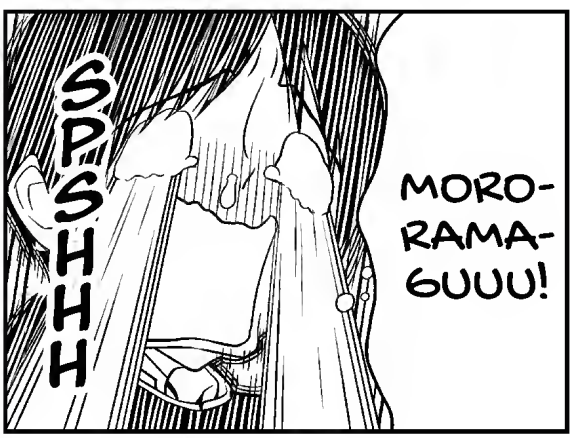

WE'RE REALLY JUST FRIENDS... ACTUALLY, SAYING WE'RE FRIENDS MIGHT EVEN BE PUSHING IT. FRANKLY, I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT'S GOING THROUGH HER HEAD, BUT I'M PRETTY SURE SHE'S A SPIRIT LINKED TO THIS LAND SINCE ANCIENT TIMES AND...
I SEE.
SO IT'S A PURE RELATIONSHIP.

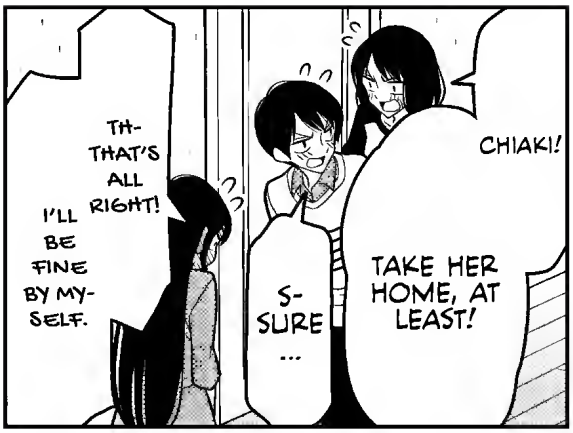

...WHO WOULD TALK TO SOMEONE AS UNSIGHTLY AS YOU, YAMANEDONO?!
WHO AM I TO SAY OTHERWISE TO A PURE MAIDEN...
BE THAT AS IT MAY!


BUT IF YOU'D LIKE, WHY DON'T YOU COME?
SHE'LL PROBABLY BRING A FRIEND, TOO.
IF YOU DON'T MIND GIRLS, THAT IS...

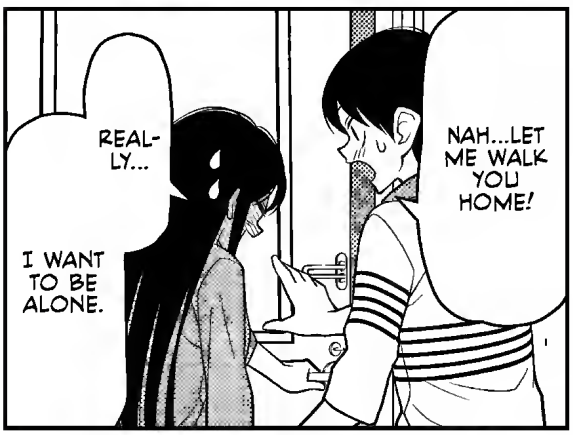

I AB SO HABBY FOR YOOU!
I...
I...

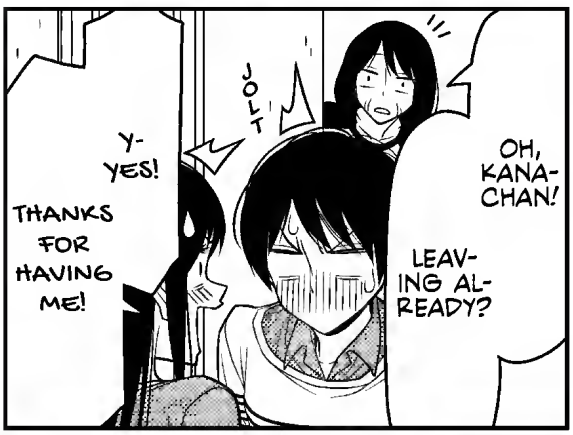

IF SHE IS A FRIEND OF YAMANEDONO,
THEN I'D BE GLAD TO!
END

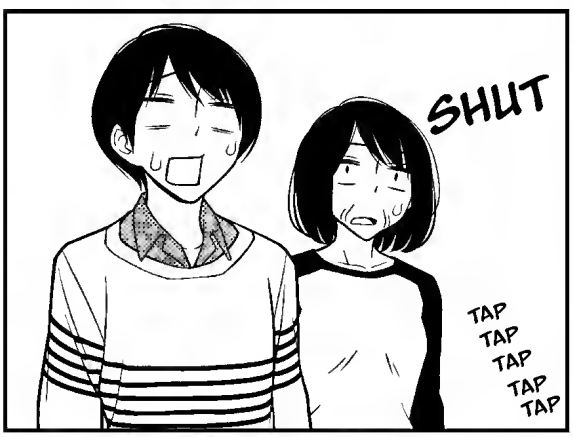

SPSHHH
MORORAMAGUUU!

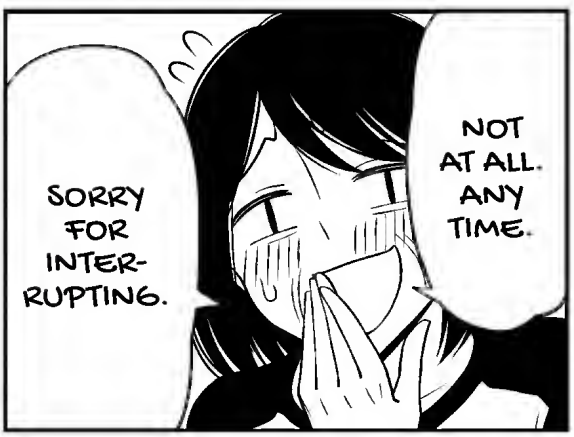

CHIAKI!
TAKE HER HOME, AT LEAST!
S-SURE ...
TH-THAT'S ALL RIGHT! I'LL BE FINE BY MYSELF.

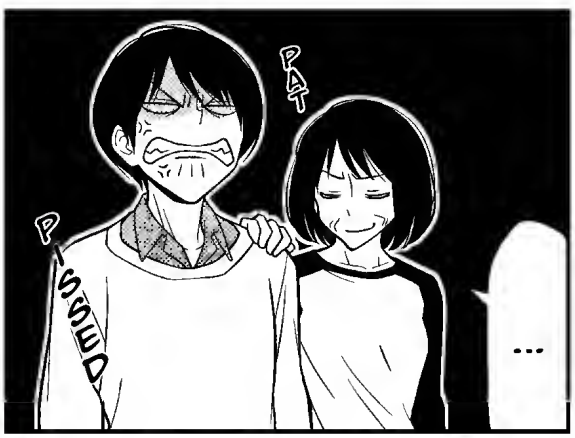
SORRY ABOUT TODAY.
IT'S FINE ...
THE PLAN WAS TO STUDY, ANYWAY.


NAH...LET ME WALK YOU HOME!
REALLY...
I WANT TO BE ALONE.

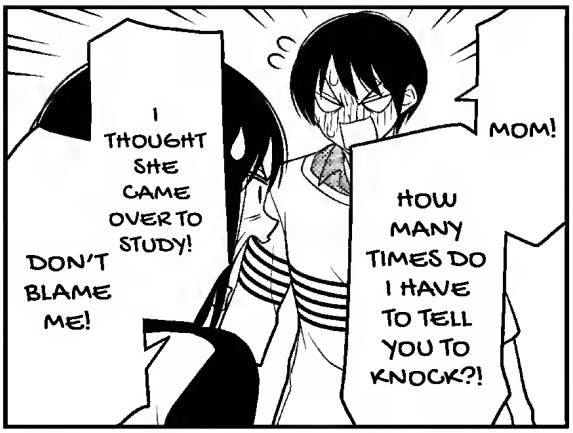

JOLT
OH, KANA-CHAN!
Y-YES!
THANKS FOR HAVING ME!
LEAVING ALREADY?

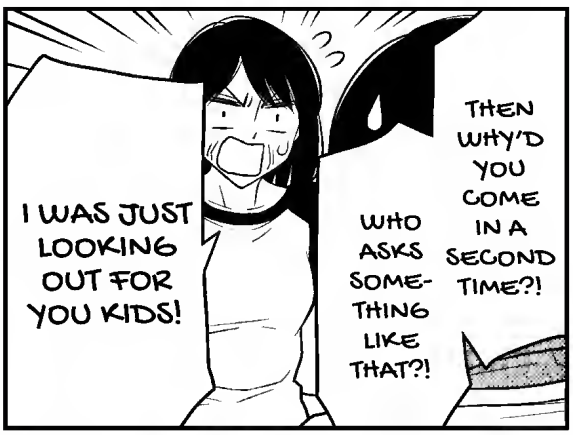

SHUT
TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP

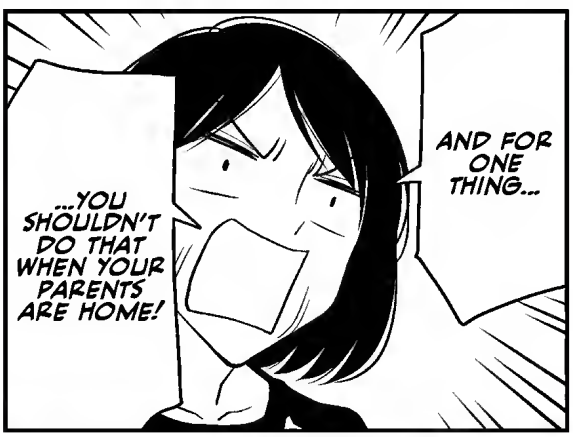

NOT AT ALL. ANY TIME.
SORRY FOR INTERRUPTING.

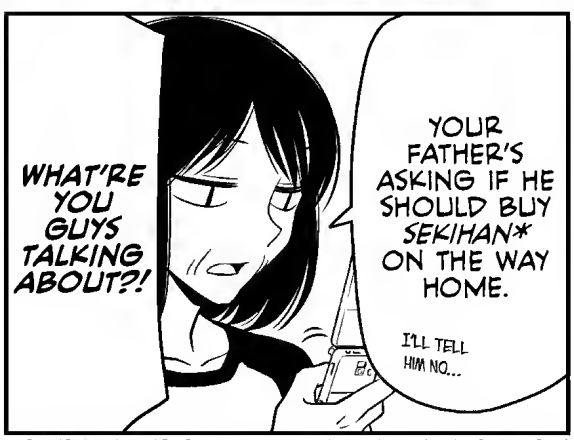

PAT
PSSWD
...

SHAKE SHAKE

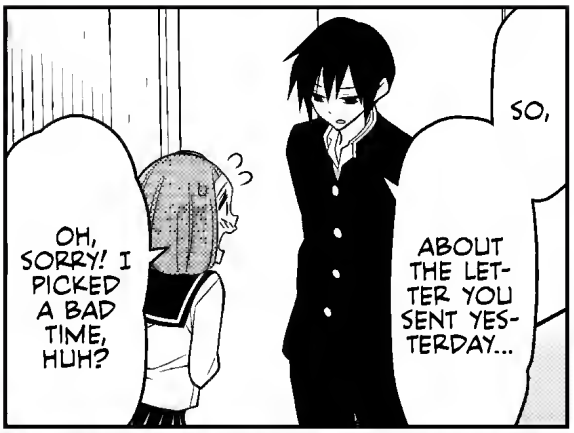


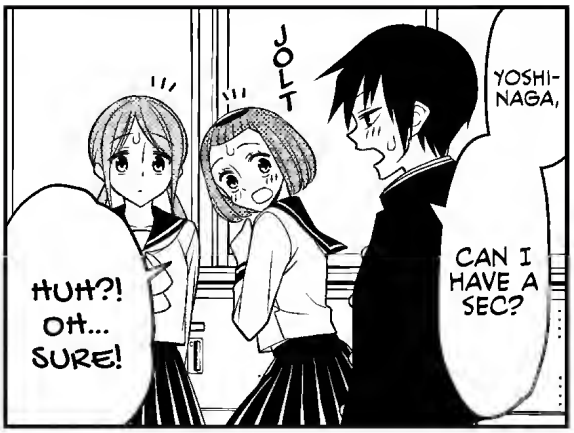




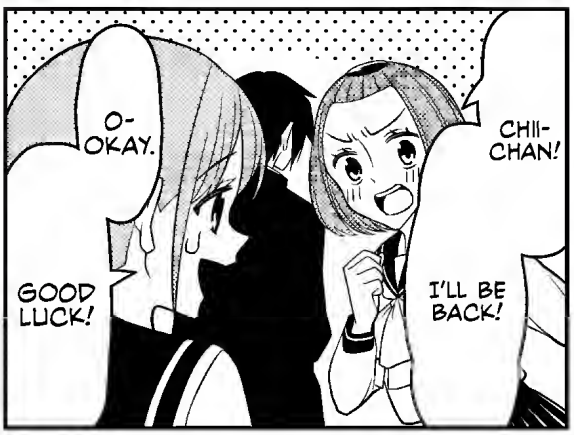



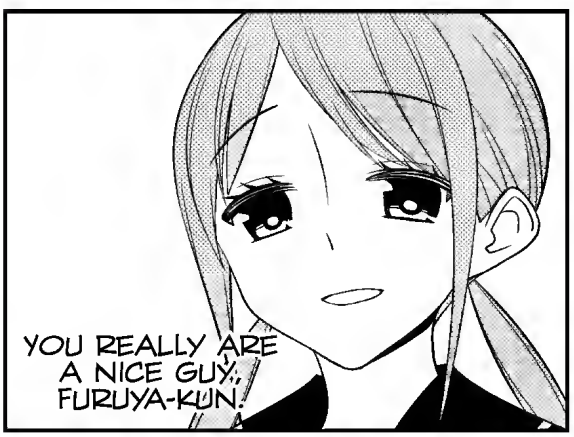
*A TRADITIONAL DISH OF STEAMED RICE AND RED BEANS, SERVED ON CELEBRATORY OCCASIONS.


SO,
ABOUT THE LETTER YOU SENT YESTERDAY...
OH, SORRY! I PICKED A BAD TIME, HUH?


YOSHINAGA,
JOLT
CAN I HAVE A SEC?
HUH?! OH... SURE!

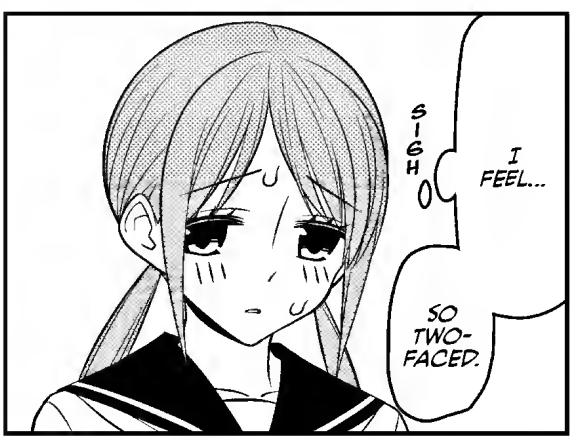
I KNOW IT WAS PROBABLY WEIRD GETTING A LETTER LIKE THAT OUT OF THE BLUE...
...BUT I'VE ACTUALLY KNOWN ABOUT YOU SINCE WE WERE FIRST-YEARS, AND I'VE GONE TO YOUR SOCCER GAMES...
AT THIS POINT, I MIGHT AS WELL GO OUT WITH ANYONE.
TAKANO SEEMS LIKE A LOST CAUSE...

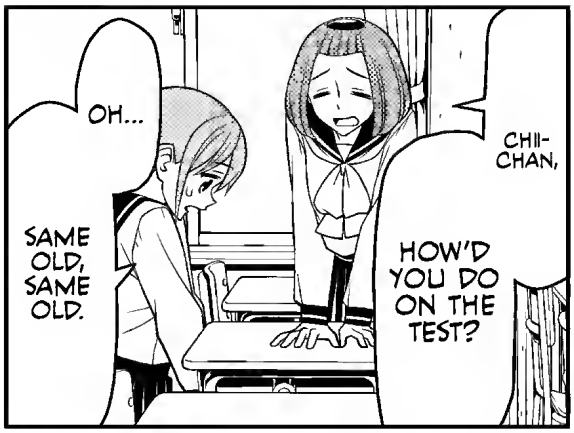

O-OKAY.
CHII-CHAN!
GOOD LUCK!
I'LL BE BACK!

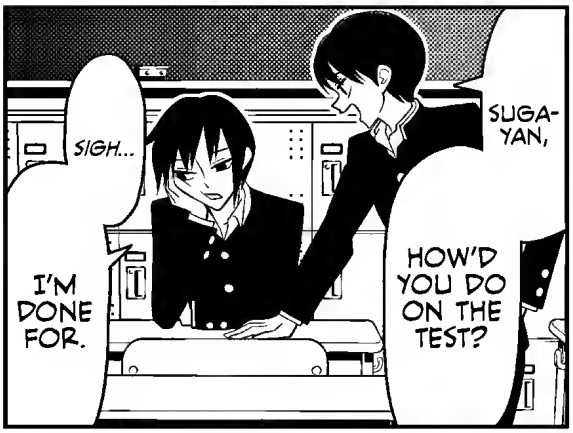

YOU REALLY ARE A NICE GUY, FURUYA-KUN.

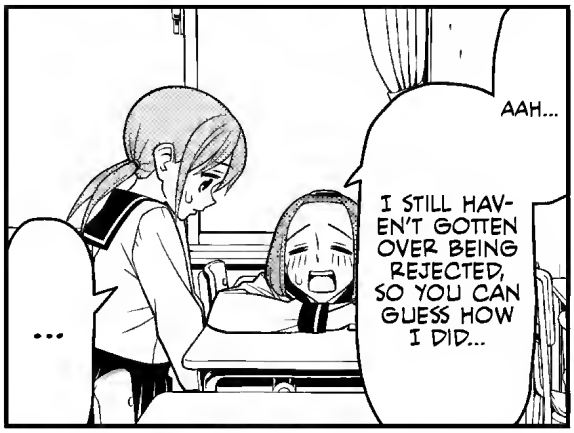
...
GOOD LUCK?

AAH...
I'M SUCH AN IDIOT...

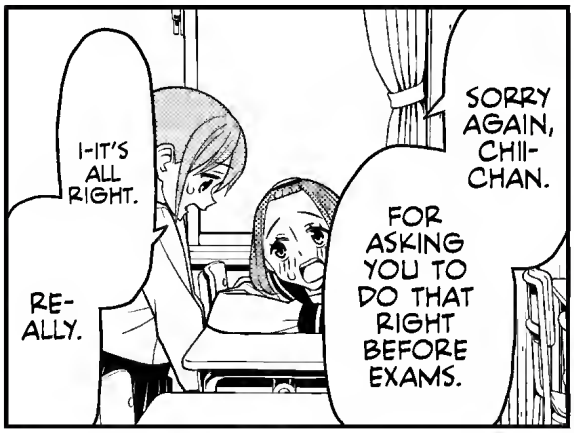

SIGH
I FEEL...
SO TWO-FACED.

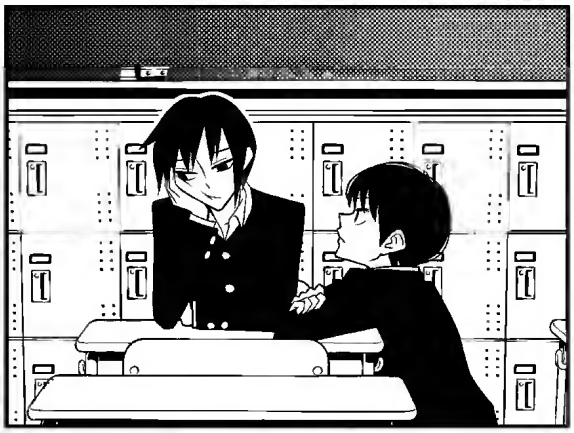

CHII-CHAN,
HOW'D YOU DO ON THE TEST?
OH...
SAME OLD, SAME OLD.

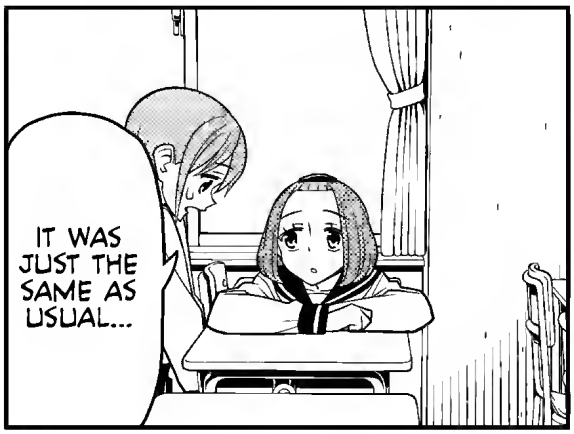

SUGA-YAN,
HOW'D YOU DO ON THE TEST?
SIGH...
I'M DONE FOR.


AAH...
I STILL HAV-EN'T GOTTEN OVER BEING REJECTED, SO YOU CAN GUESS HOW I DID...
...

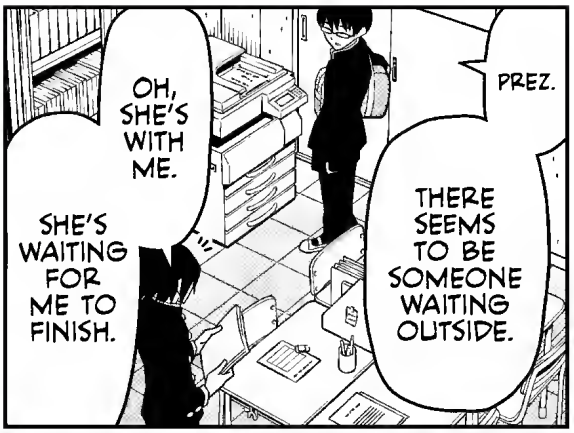
ME, TOO.
I COULDN'T CONCEN-TRATE ON STUDYING AT ALL.
SIGH...
ME, NEI-THER.

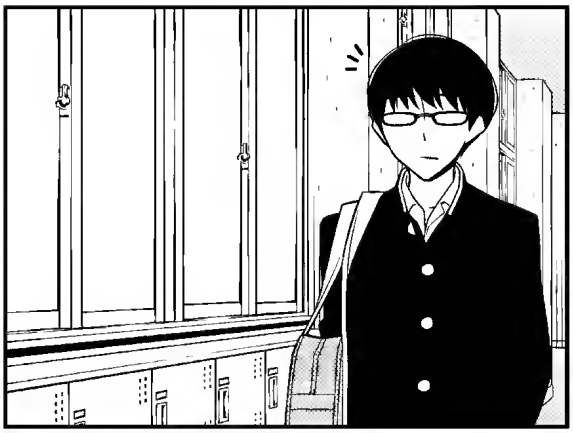

SORRY AGAIN, CHII-CHAN.
FOR ASKING YOU TO DO THAT RIGHT BEFORE EXAMS.
I-IT'S ALL RIGHT.
RE-ALLY.



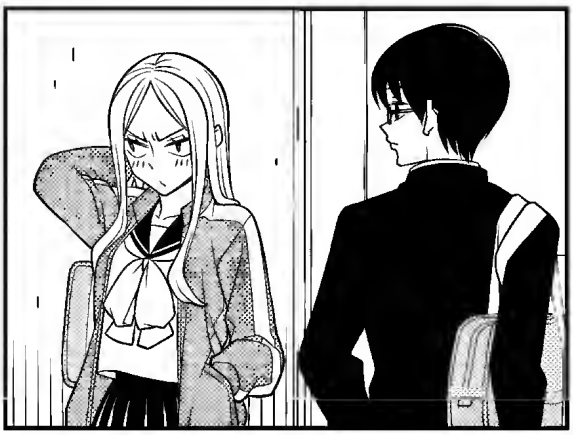

IT WAS JUST THE SAME AS USUAL...

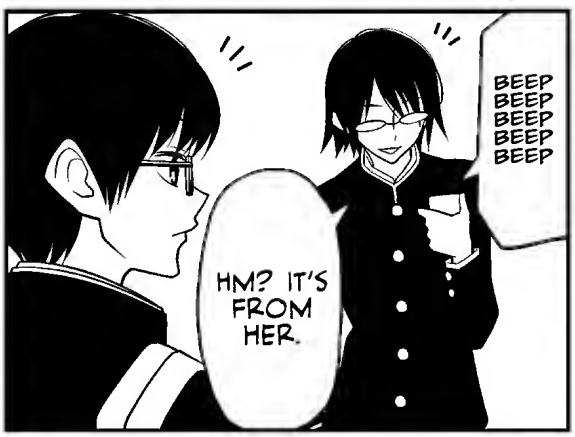
...
WHAT DID YOU DO, SUGAYAN?
SIGH...
I COULDN'T DO ANY-THING.

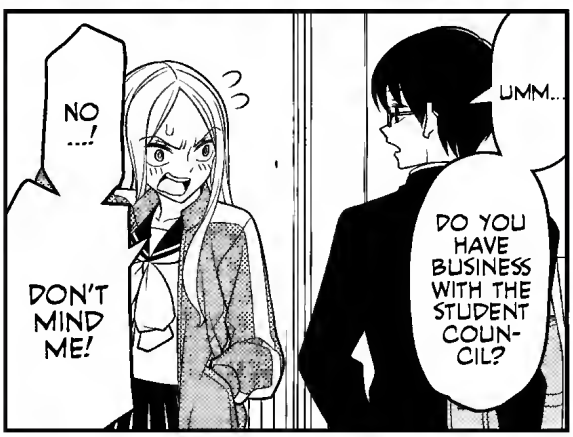

PREZ.
THERE SEEMS TO BE SOMEONE WAITING OUTSIDE.
OH, SHE'S WITH ME.
SHE'S WAITING FOR ME TO FINISH.

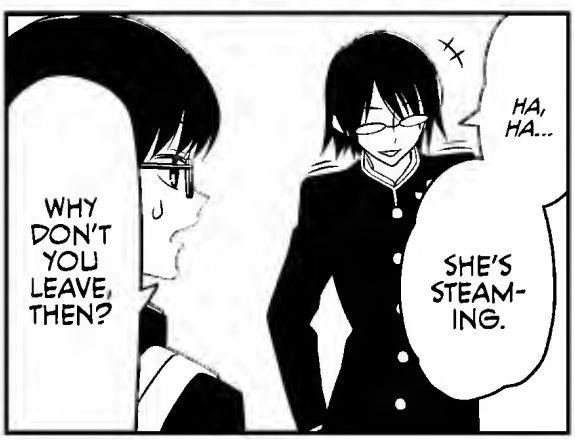


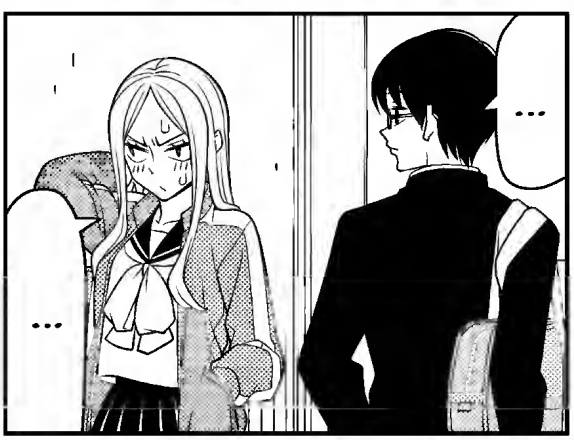
WHY DON'T YOU LEAVE, THEN?
OH, Y'KNOW ...
SHE'S JUST SO CUTE.



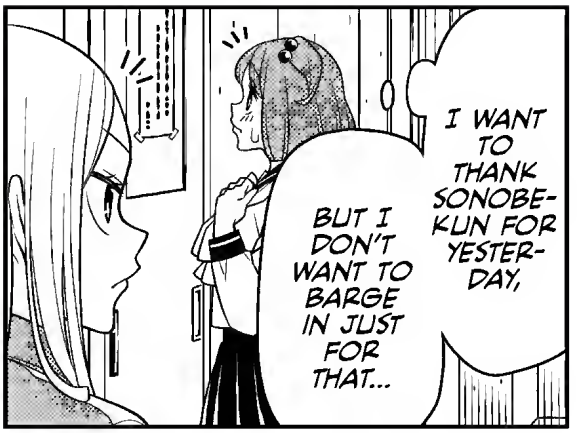

BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP
HM? IT'S FROM HER.

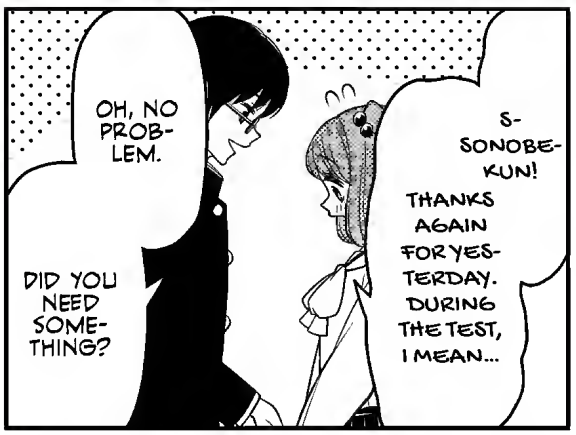

UMM...
DO YOU HAVE BUSINESS WITH THE STUDENT COUN-CIL?
NO ...!
DON'T MIND ME!

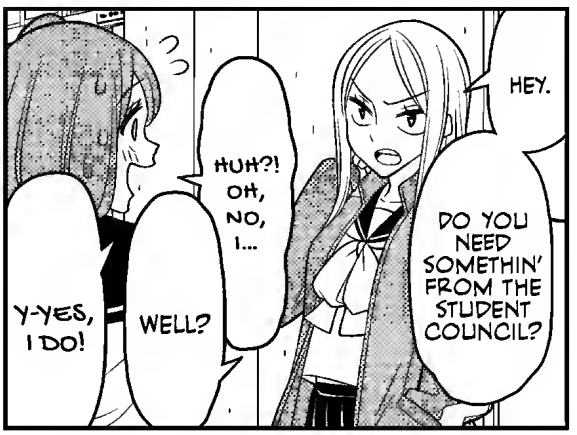

HA, HA...
SHE'S STEAM-ING.
WHY DON'T YOU LEAVE, THEN?


...
...

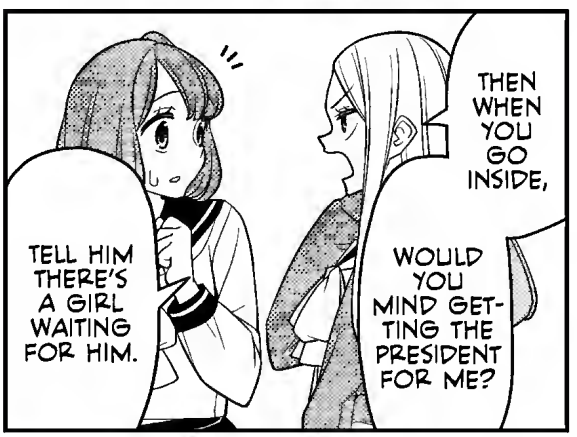
EXCUSE ME...
HM? NASHIMOTO-SAN?


I WANT TO THANK SONOBE-KUN FOR YESTERDAY,
BUT I DON'T WANT TO BARGE IN JUST FOR THAT...


S-SONOBE-KUN! THANKS AGAIN FOR YESTERDAY. DURING THE TEST, I MEAN...
OH, NO PROBLEM.
DID YOU NEED SOMETHING?

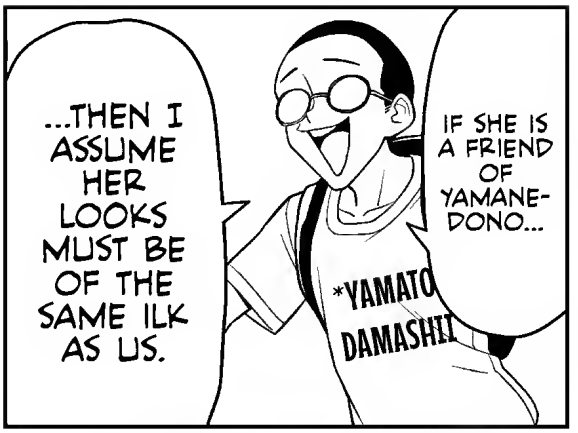

HEY.
DO YOU NEED SOMETHIN' FROM THE STUDENT COUNCIL?
HUH?! OH, NO, I...
WELL?
Y-YES, I DO!

AH! THERE'S A GIRL WAITING OUT—
SEEING AS YOU'RE HERE AND ALL...
...WHY DON'T YOU HAVE A SEAT AND HELP YOURSELF TO SOME SNACKS?

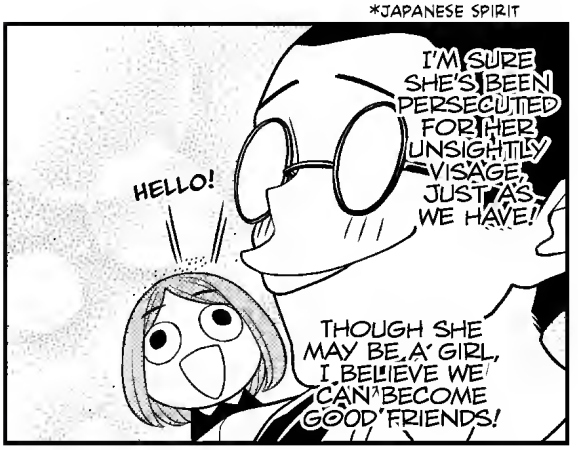

THEN WHEN YOU GO INSIDE,
WOULD YOU MIND GETTING THE PRESIDENT FOR ME?
TELL HIM THERE'S A GIRL WAITING FOR HIM.

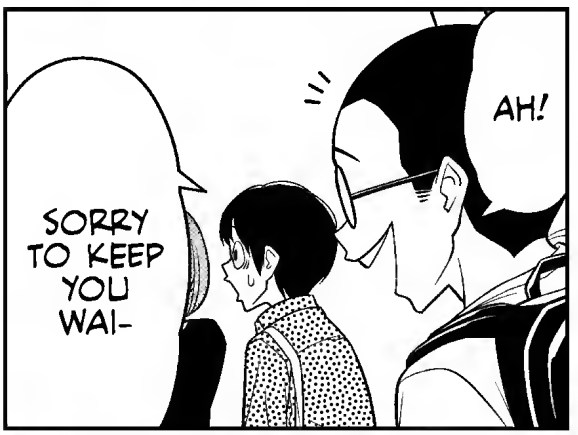
O-OKAY!

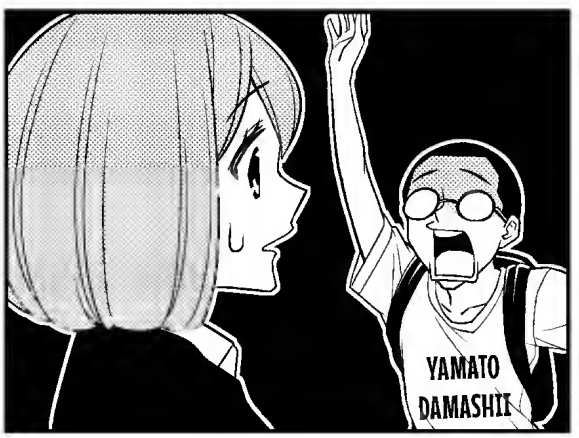
O-OKAY!

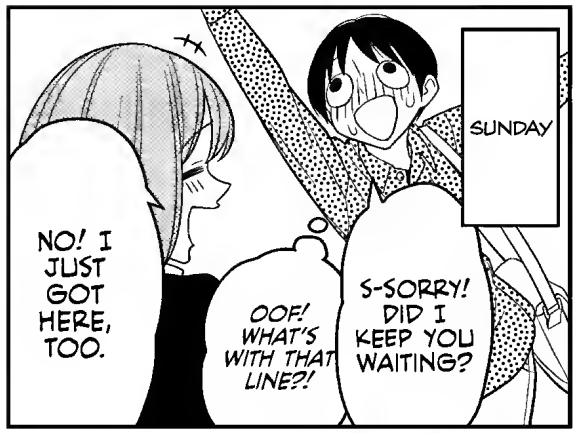


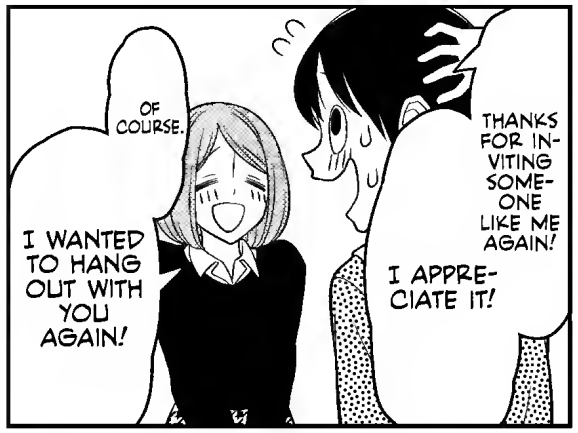

*JAPANESE SPIRIT

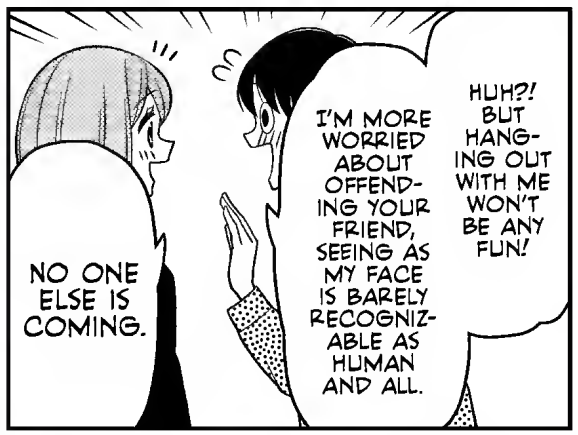


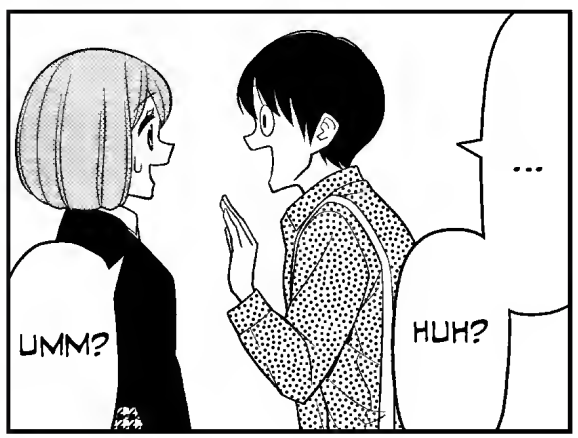



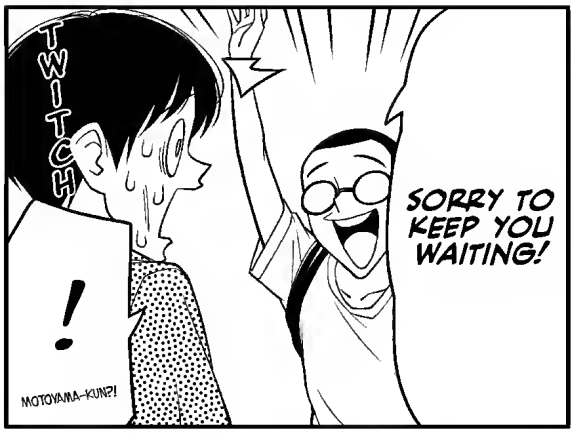



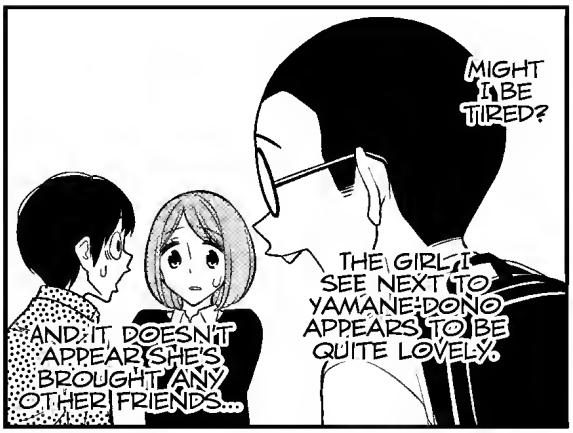



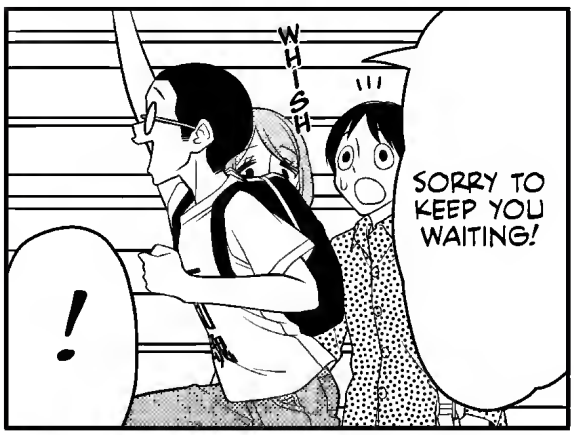



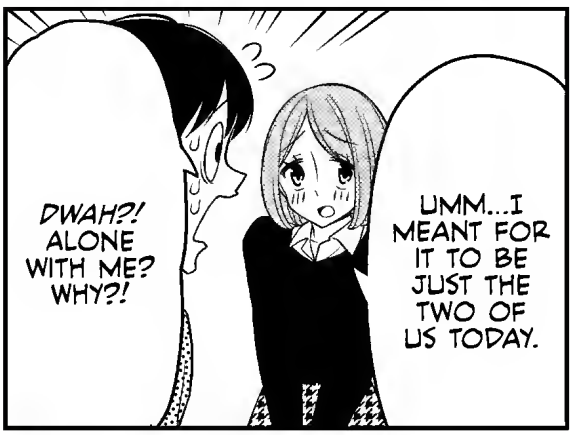



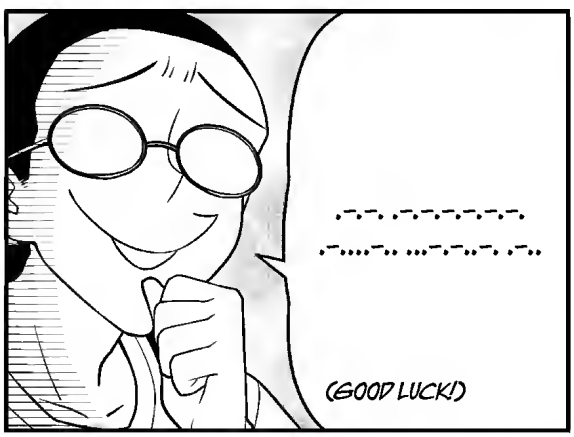
EXTRA

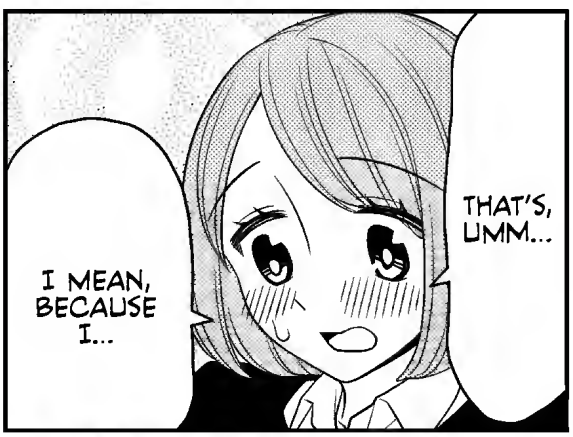


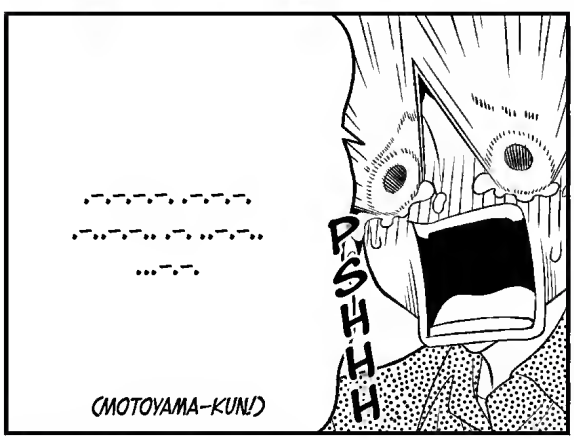



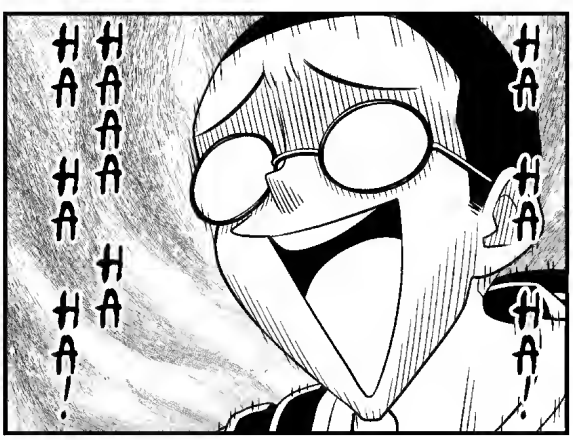



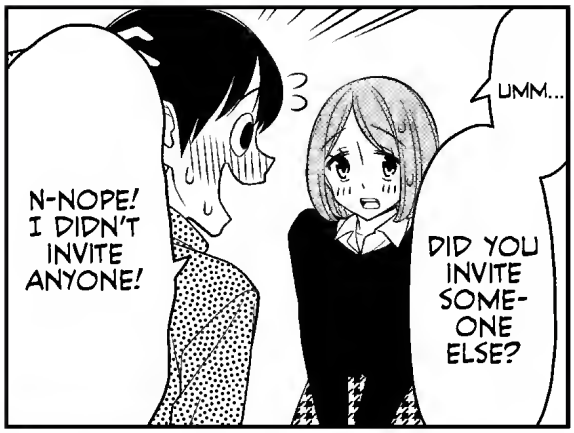



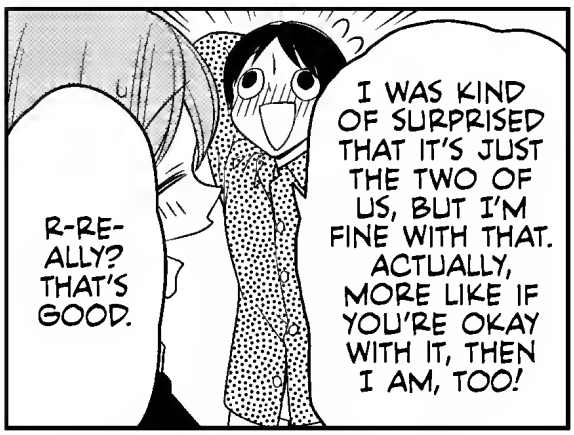



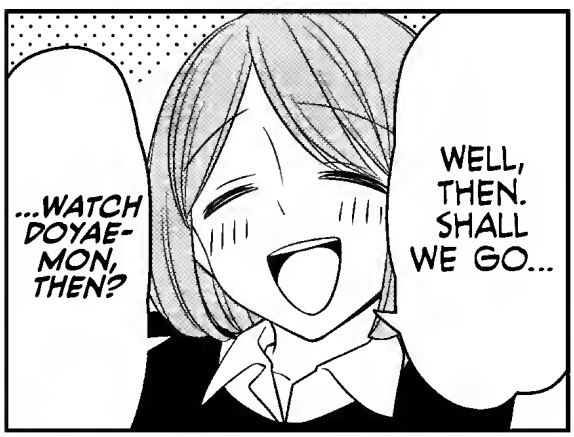




*BOTH THESE PANELS ARE IN MORSE CODE.

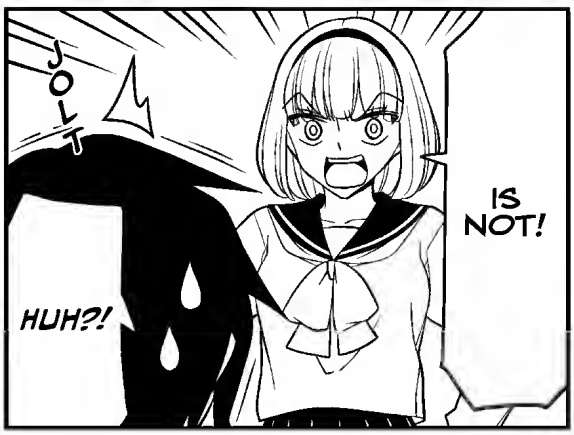

UMM...
DID YOU INVITE SOME-ONE ELSE?
N-NOPE! I DIDN'T INVITE ANYONE!

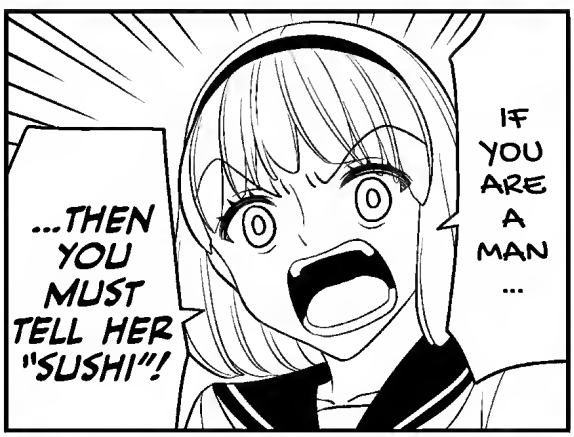

I WAS KIND OF SURPRISED THAT IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US, BUT I'M FINE WITH THAT. ACTUALLY, MORE LIKE IF YOU'RE OKAY WITH IT, THEN I AM, TOO!
R-RE-ALLY? THAT'S GOOD.


WELL, THEN. SHALL WE GO...
...WATCH DOYAE-MON, THEN?

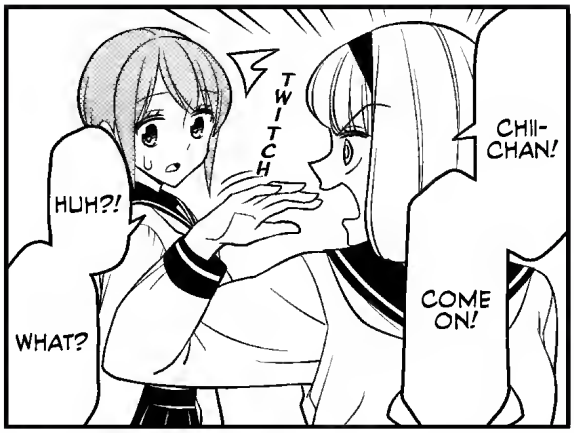
# Coward

HEY, SUGAYAN!
YOU STILL HAVEN'T CONFESSED?!
NAH, IT'S FINE...


JOLT
IS NOT!
HUH?!


IF YOU ARE A MAN ...
...THEN YOU MUST TELL HER "SUSHI"!

...
HM?


CHII-CHAN!
COME ON!
TWITCH
HUH?!
WHAT?

PUFF
PUFF
SUSHI?
???
WELL, ANYWAY, YOU GET THE IDEA!
WHAT ABOUT SUSHI, THOUGH?

SUGAYAN HERE...
...HAS SOME-THING TO TELL YOU!
TWITCH
!

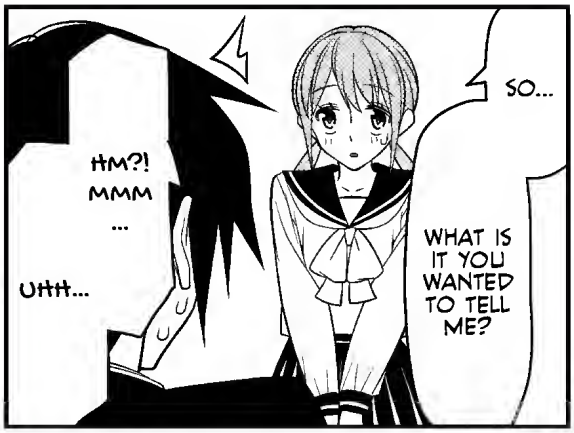
SUGAYAN, SUGAYAN ...
SHE'S SERI-OUS.
YOU'D BETTER JUST DO WHAT SHE SAYS.
HUH? BUT WHAT'S THIS ABOUT SUSHI?

UMM ...
WHAT IS IT?

THAT'S...
...WHAT I WANNA KNOW, TOO!

UHH...
GOOD QUES-TION...

...
WHA?!
WHY ARE YOU CRYING?

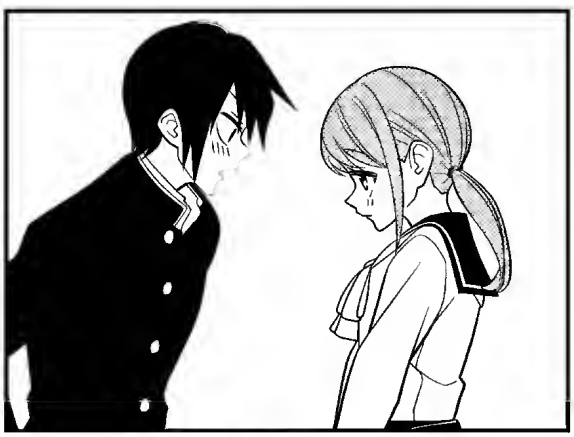

SO...
WHAT IS IT YOU WANTED TO TELL ME?
HM?! MMM ...
UHH...

HO HO HO HO
PATTY?
WHAT SAY WE LEAVE THESE TWO YOUNG-STERS ALONE?
AGREED!
YOU GUYS ARE RUTH-LESS.

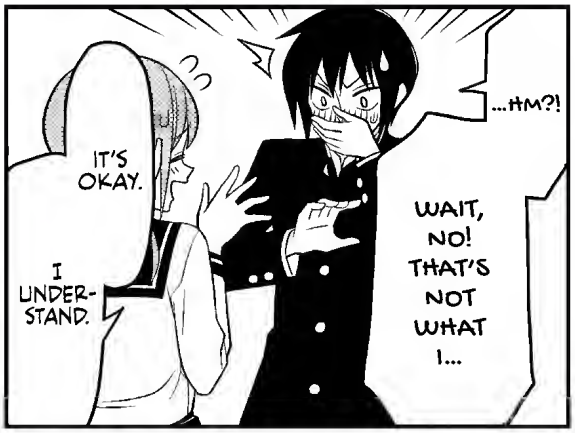
DON'T TELL ME.
IS PATRI-CIA-CHAN PULLING A PRANK?
TWITCH
HUH?! NO, I...

...
EVERY-ONE LEFT.
Y-YEAH...

PATRICIA-CHAN IS SO FUNNY.
THE OTHER DAY, SHE AND TSUJI-KUN...

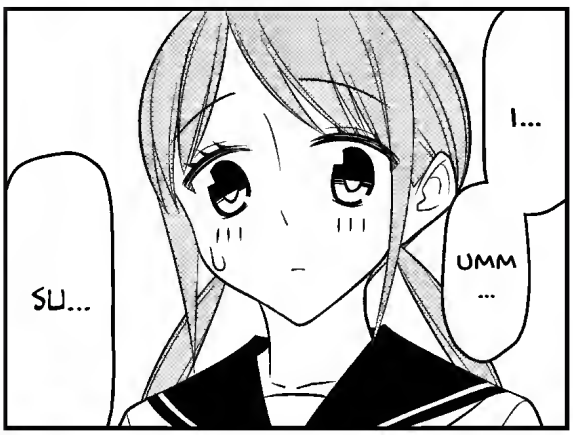


I DO.
I DO HAVE SOME-THING ...
I WANT TO TELL YOU.


...HM?!
WAIT, NO! THAT'S NOT WHAT I...
IT'S OKAY.
I UNDER-STAND.

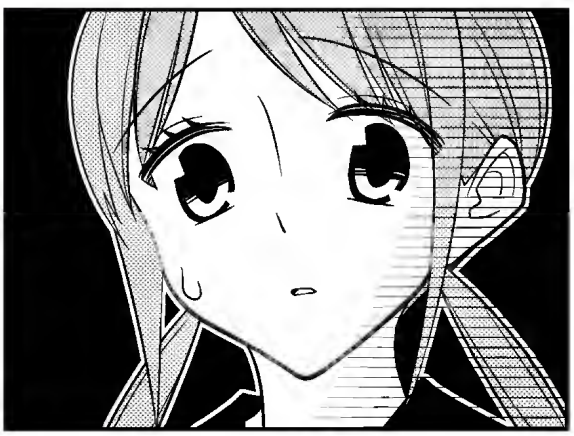
THE THING IS,
TAKA-NO...
OH, SOR-RY.
WHAT IS IT?

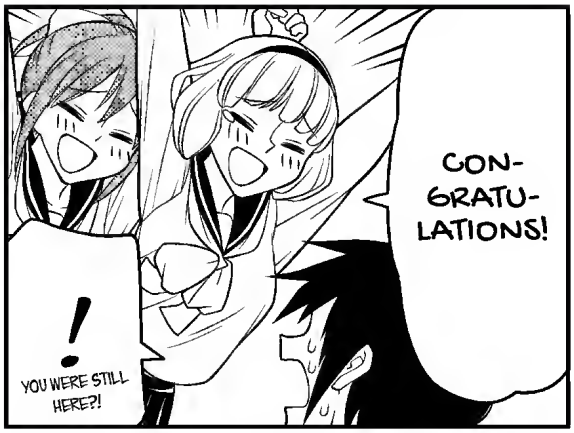
YOU ...
...MEANT TO SAY "LIKE," RIGHT?
HUH?!

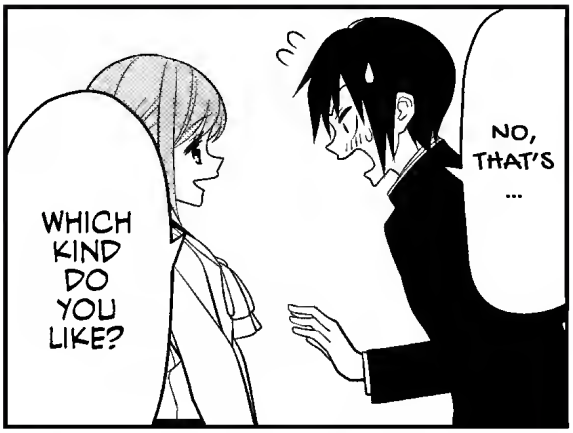

I...
UMM ...
SU...

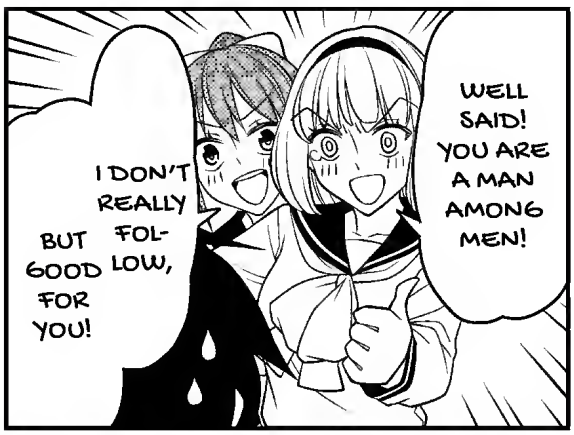
I FEEL THE SAME WAY.
I LIKE SUSHI, TOO.

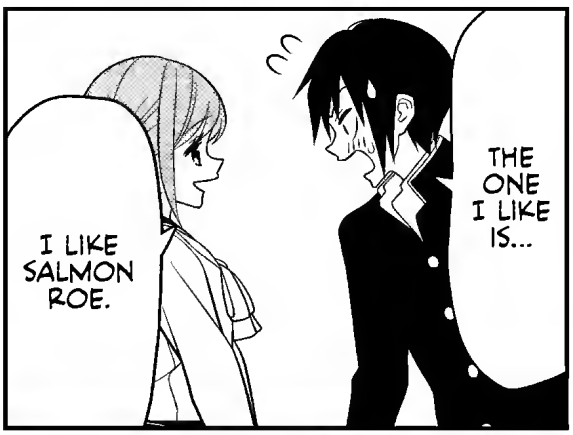
SU-SHI!

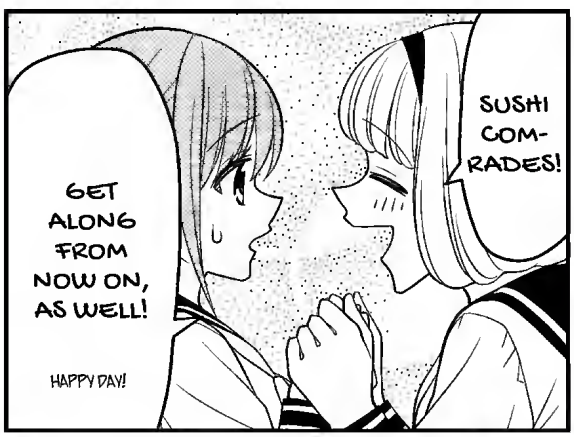


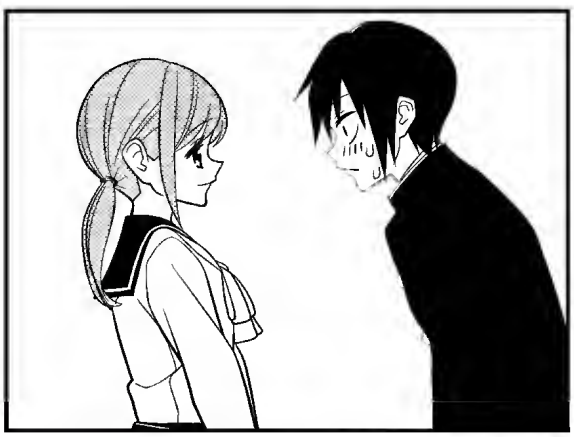

CON-
GRATU-
LATIONS!
!
YOU WERE STILL HERE?!


NO, THAT'S ...
WHICH KIND DO YOU LIKE?

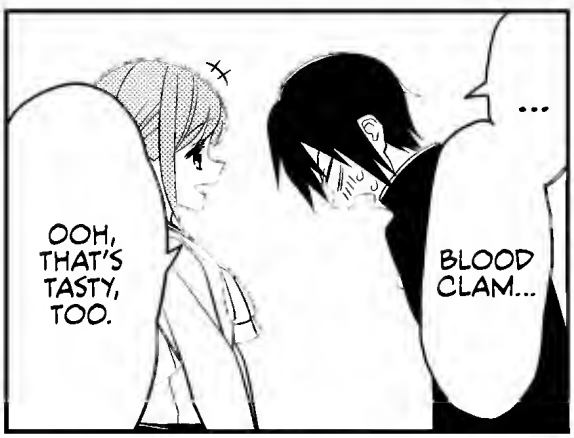

WELL SAID! YOU ARE A MAN AMONG MEN!
I DON'T REALLY FOL-
LOW, BUT GOOD FOR YOU!

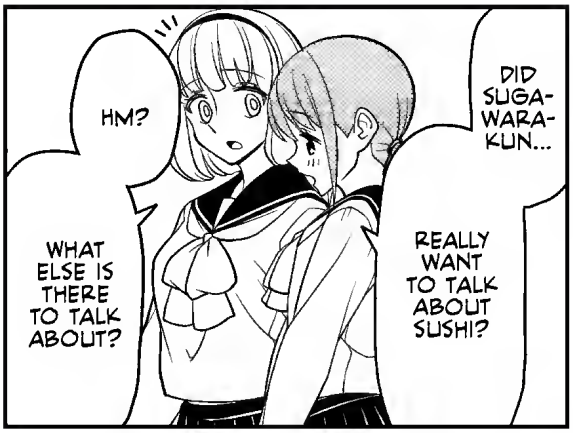

THE ONE I LIKE IS...
I LIKE SALMON ROE.

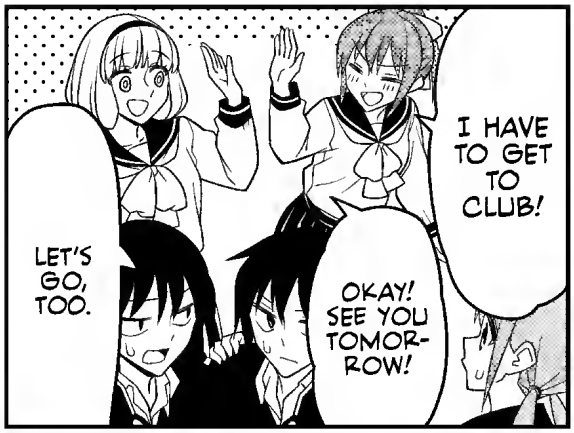

SUSHI COM-
RADES!
GET ALONG FROM NOW ON, AS WELL!
HAPPY DAY!

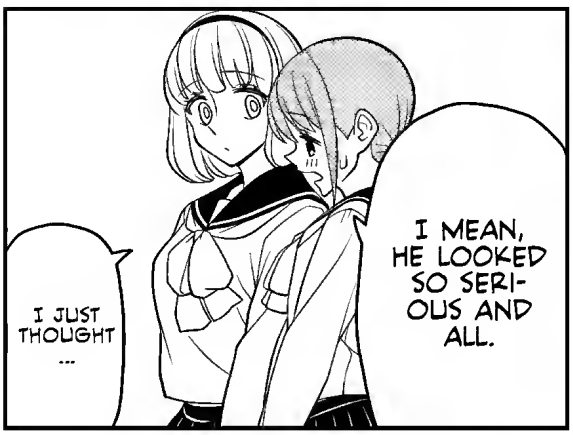


...BUT WHAT IS SUSHI?
YOU'LL JUST MAKE HER MAD.
DON'T.

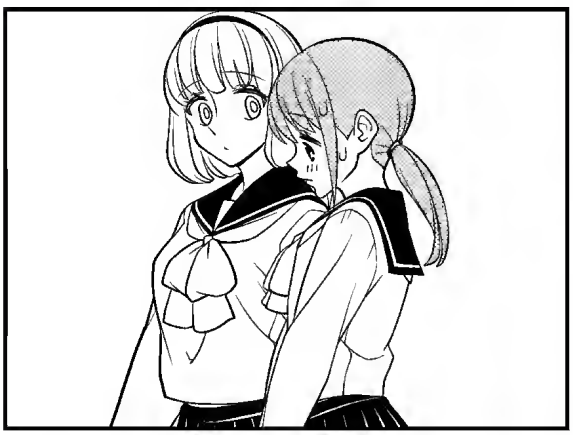

...
OOH, THAT'S TASTY, TOO.
BLOOD CLAM...

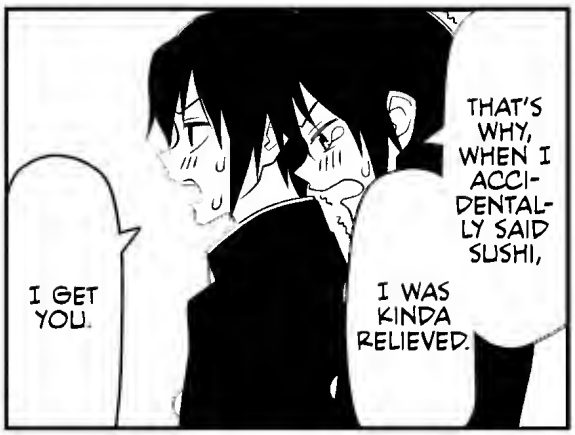

DID SUGA-WARA-KUN...
REALLY WANT TO TALK ABOUT SUSHI?
HM?
WHAT ELSE IS THERE TO TALK ABOUT?

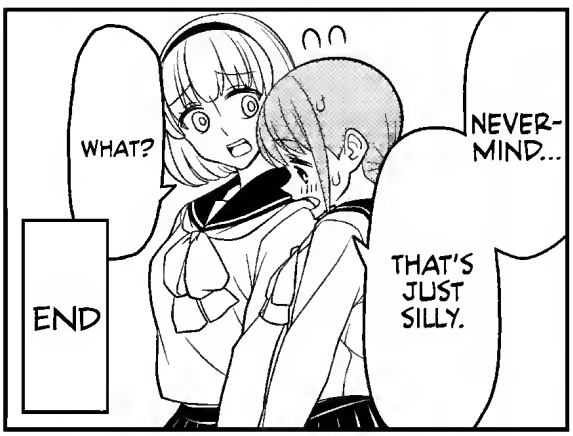

I HAVE TO GET TO CLUB!
OKAY! SEE YOU TOMOR-ROW!
LET'S GO, TOO.

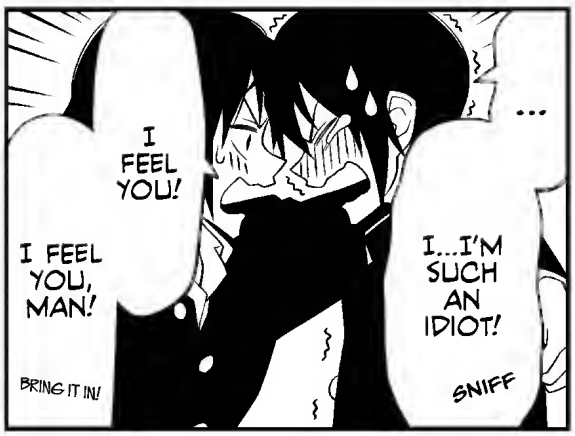

I MEAN, HE LOOKED SO SERI-OUS AND ALL.
I JUST THOUGHT ...

...
I KNEW IT WAS POINTLESS, BUT STILL.
I KNOW.

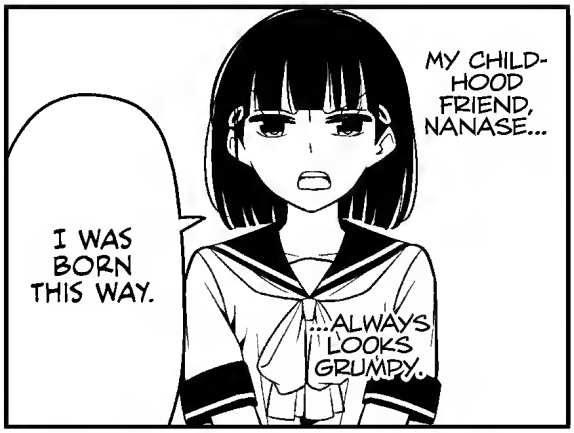


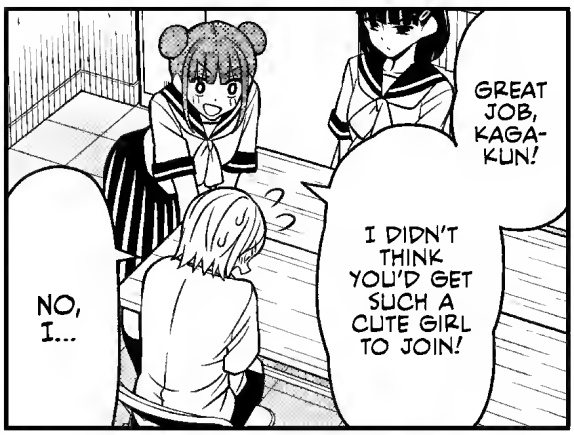

THAT'S WHY, WHEN I ACCI-DENTAL-LY SAID SUSHI,
I WAS KINDA RELIEVED.
I GET YOU.

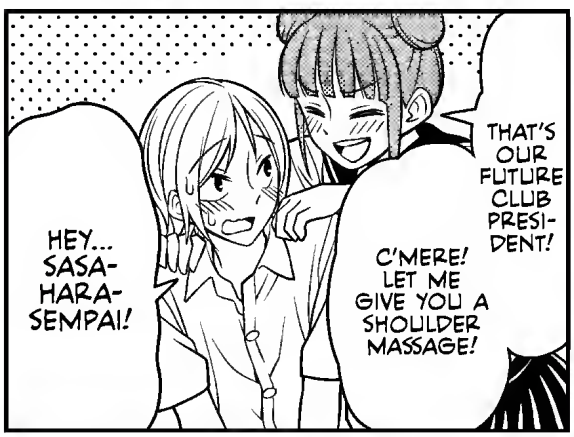

NEVER-MIND...
THAT'S JUST SILLY.
WHAT?
END

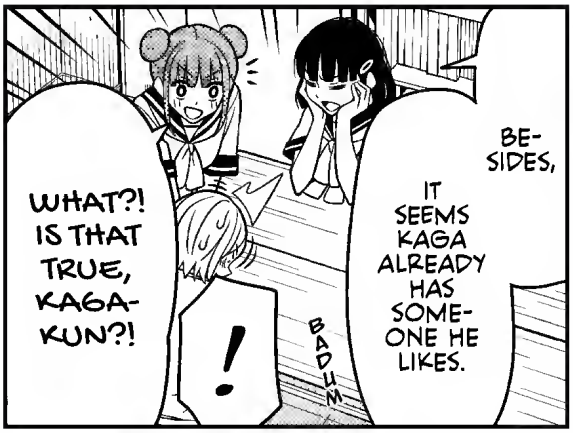

...
I...I'M SUCH AN IDIOT!
SNIFF
I FEEL YOU!
I FEEL YOU, MAN!
BRING IT IN!

# Childhood Friends

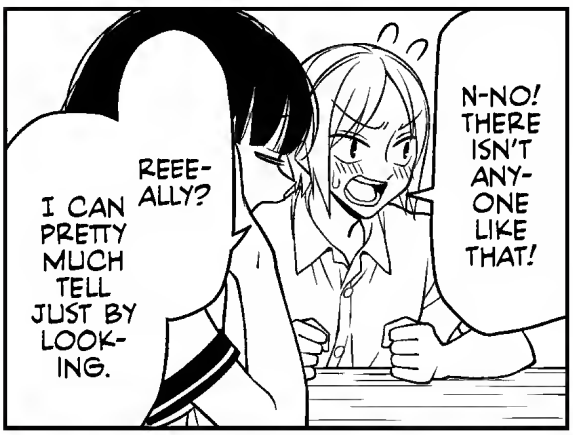


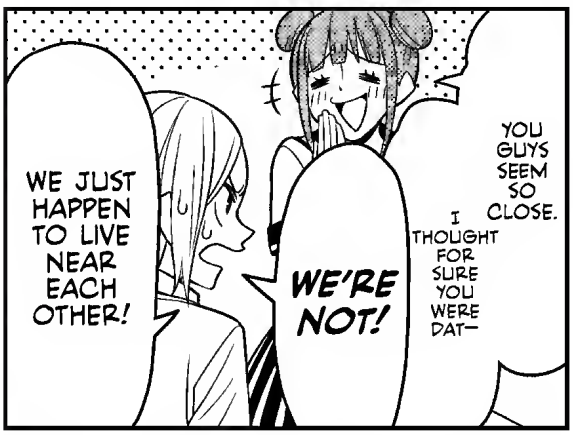



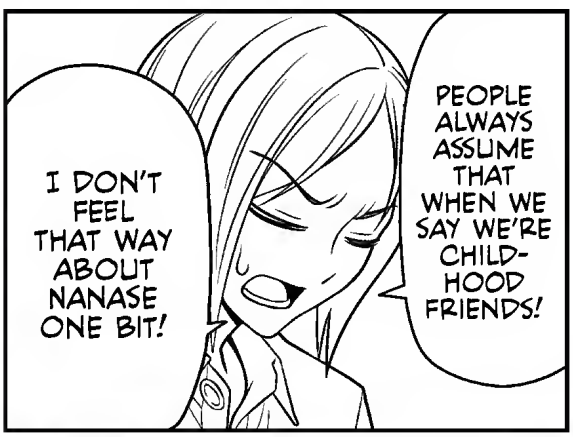

BE-
SIDES,
IT SEEMS KAGA ALREADY HAS SOME-ONE HE LIKES.
BADUM
!
WHAT?! IS THAT TRUE, KAGA-KUN?!

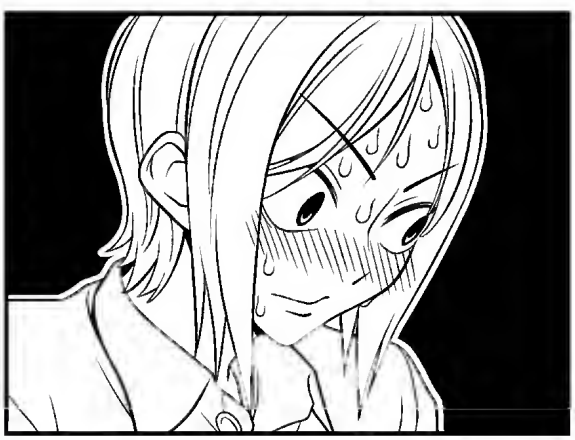
SASA-HARA-SEM-PAI.
I WAS INTER-ESTED IN THE STARS TO BEGIN WITH.
I DIDN'T JOIN BE-CAUSE KAGA INVITED ME.
WHAT? REALLY?


N-NO! THERE ISN'T ANY-ONE LIKE THAT!
REEE-ALLY?
I CAN PRETTY MUCH TELL JUST BY LOOK-ING.

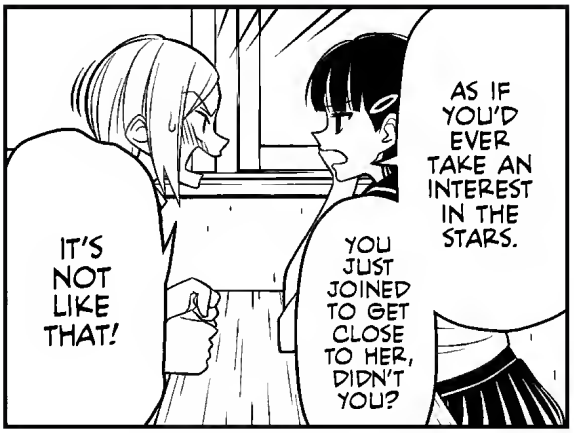

YOU GUYS SEEM SO CLOSE.
I THOUGHT FOR SURE YOU WERE DAT—
WE'RE NOT!
WE JUST HAPPEN TO LIVE NEAR EACH OTHER!

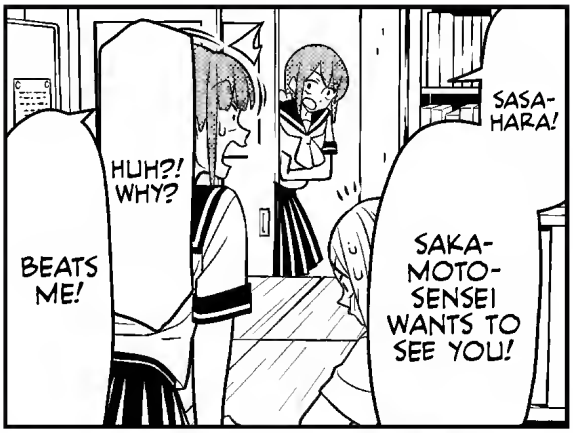
WANT ME TO TAKE A GUESS?
HMM?

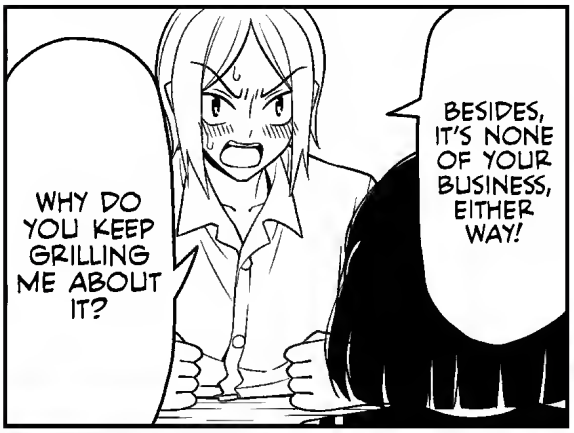

PEOPLE ALWAYS ASSUME THAT WHEN WE SAY WE'RE CHILD-HOOD FRIENDS!
I DON'T FEEL THAT WAY ABOUT NANASE ONE BIT!

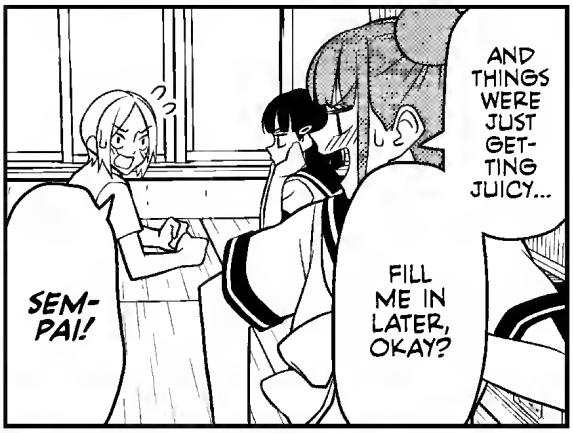


NEITHER DO I!


AS IF YOU'D EVER TAKE AN INTEREST IN THE STARS.
YOU JUST JOINED TO GET CLOSE TO HER, DIDN'T YOU?
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT!

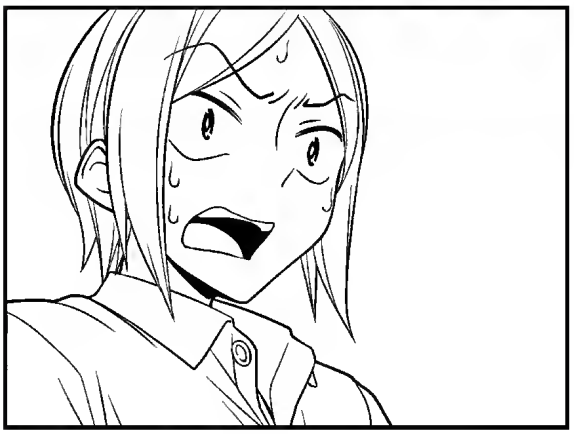

SASA-HARA!
SAKA-MOTO-SENSEI WANTS TO SEE YOU!
HUH?! WHY?
BEATS ME!

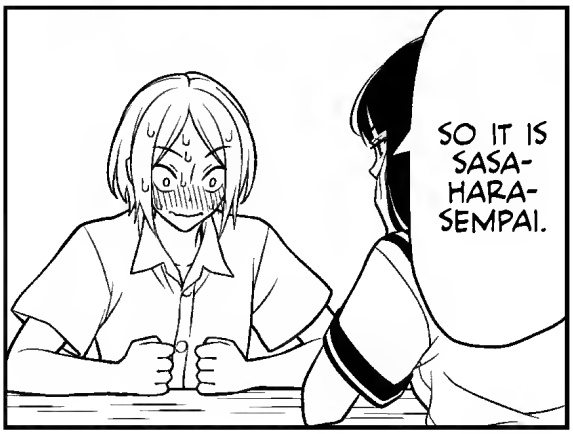

BESIDES, IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS, EITHER WAY!
WHY DO YOU KEEP GRILLING ME ABOUT IT?


AND THINGS WERE JUST GET-TING JUICY...
FILL ME IN LATER, OKAY?
SEM-PAI!

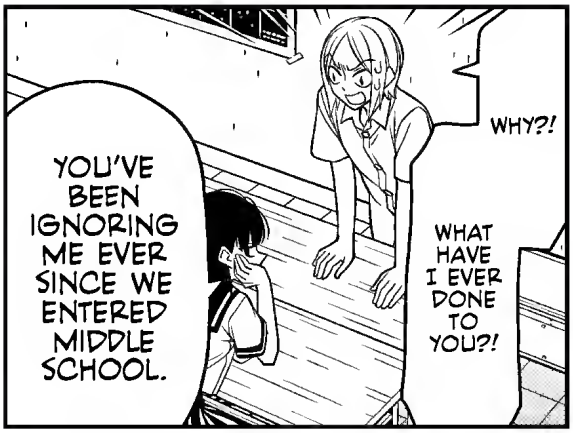
BECAUSE I WANT YOU TO HURRY UP AND GET REJECTED.

JEEZ...

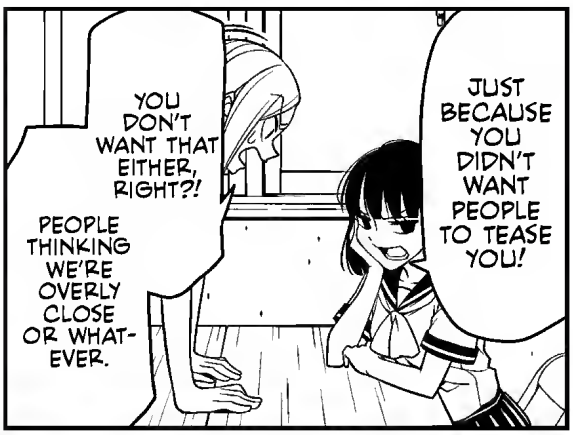



SO IT IS SASA-HARA-SEMPAI.

WHAT'S YOUR DEAL?
I WAS TRYING TO BE CONSIDERATE FOR YOUR SAKE!
OH, I SEE! YOU DON'T WANT PEOPLE SPREADING RUMORS ABOUT US, DO YOU?


YOU'VE BEEN IGNORING ME EVER SINCE WE ENTERED MIDDLE SCHOOL.
WHY?!
WHAT HAVE I EVER DONE TO YOU?!

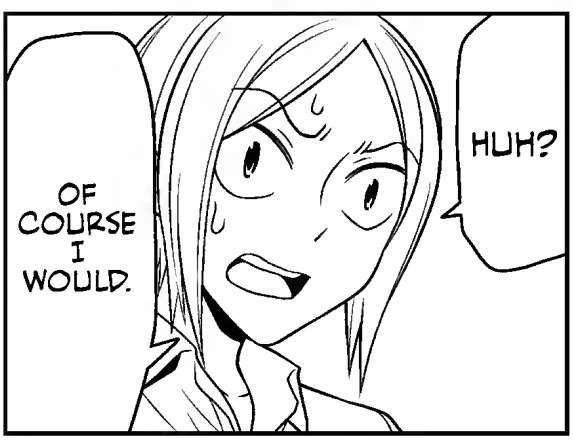
WELL, YOU HATED ME, TOO, DIDN'T YOU?!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, FOR MY SAKE?! YOU STARTED IGNORING ME ALL OF A SUDDEN!

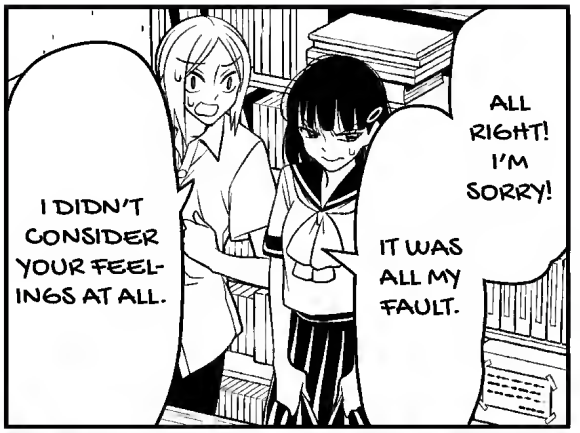

YOU DON'T WANT THAT EITHER, RIGHT?!
PEOPLE THINKING WE'RE OVERLY CLOSE OR WHATEVER.
JUST BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T WANT PEOPLE TO TEASE YOU!

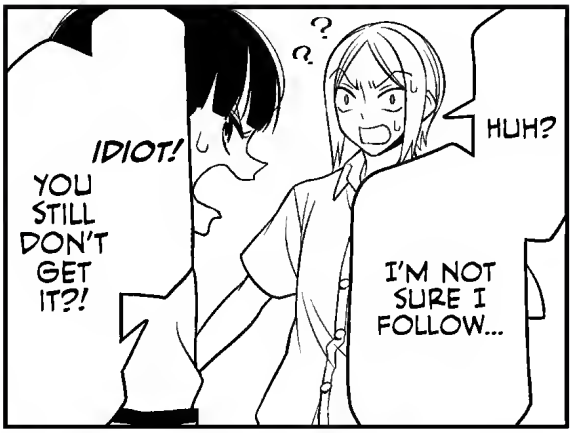
WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE?!
WE HATE EACH OTHER, THAT'S ALL!
NO!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO HATED ME FIRST!

...WE WERE CLOSE, WOULD YOU?
SO, YOU'D HATE IT IF PEOPLE THOUGHT ...

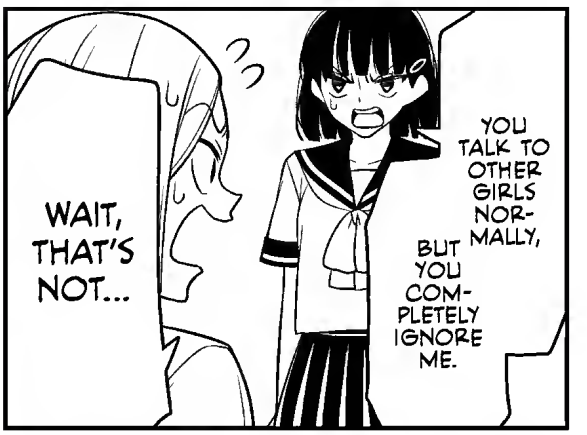
...HAVE GONE TO THE SAME SCHOOL AS YOU!
IF I HATED YOU, THEN I WOULDN'T ...

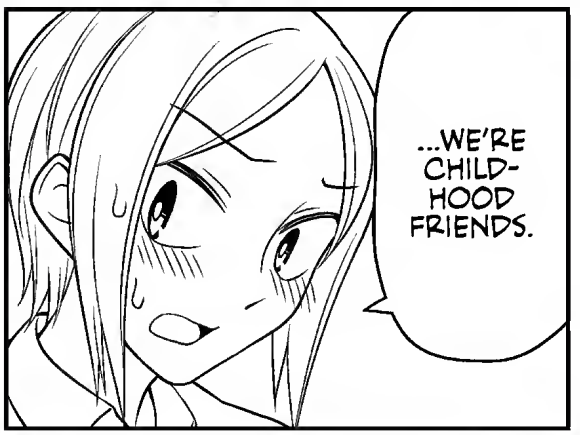

OF COURSE I WOULD.
HUH?

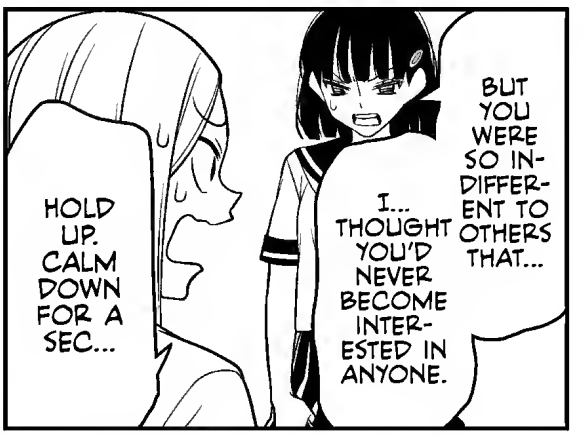

I DIDN'T CONSIDER YOUR FEELINGS AT ALL.
IT WAS ALL MY FAULT.
ALL RIGHT! I'M SORRY!

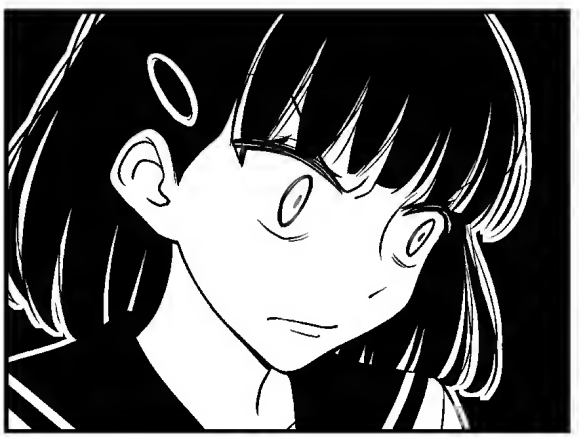

IDIOT! YOU STILL DON'T GET IT?!
I'M NOT SURE I FOLLOW...
HUH?

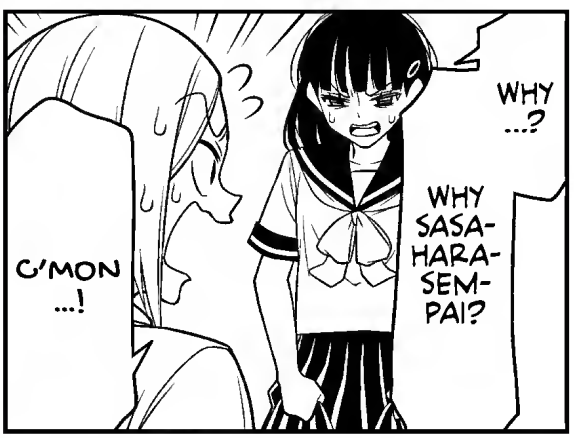
!
BECAUSE, UMM...
YOU WERE WORRIED ABOUT ME ALL THIS TIME, WEREN'T YOU?

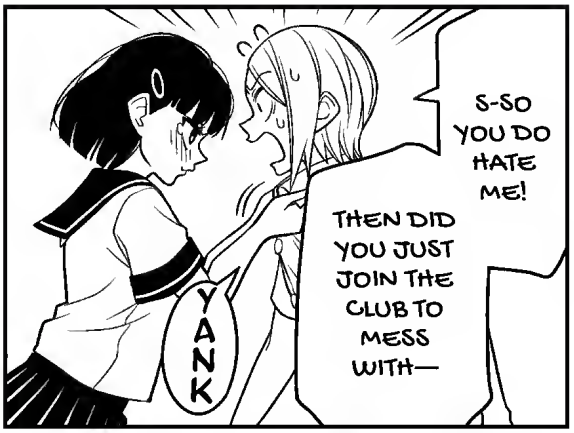

WAIT, THAT'S NOT...
BUT YOU COMPLETELY IGNORE ME.
YOU TALK TO OTHER GIRLS NORMALLY,

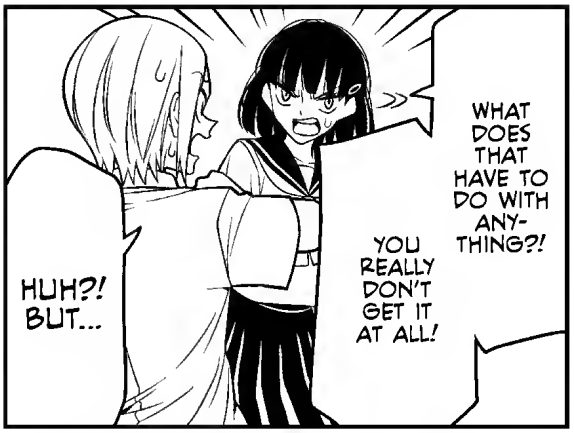

...WE'RE CHILDHOOD FRIENDS.


HOLD UP. CALM DOWN FOR A SEC...
I... THOUGHT YOU'D NEVER BECOME INTERESTED IN ANYONE.
BUT YOU WERE SO INDIFFERENT TO OTHERS THAT...

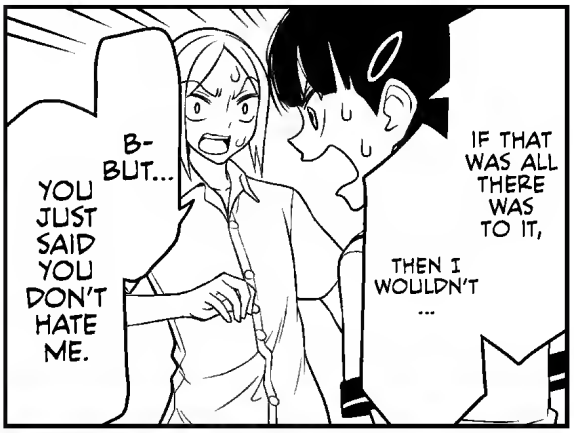


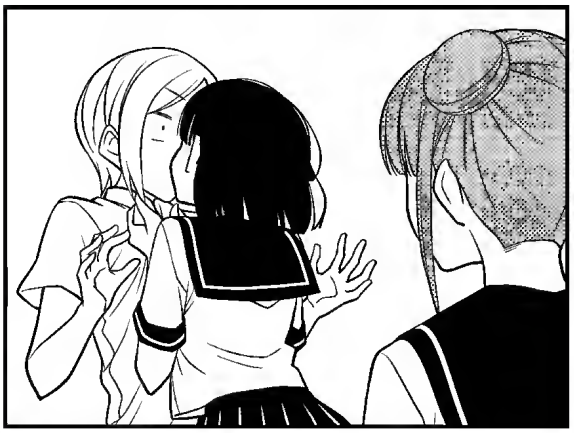

C'MON ...!
WHY SASAHARA-SEMPAI?
WHY ...?


S-SO YOU DO HATE ME!
THEN DID YOU JUST JOIN THE CLUB TO MESS WITH—
YANK

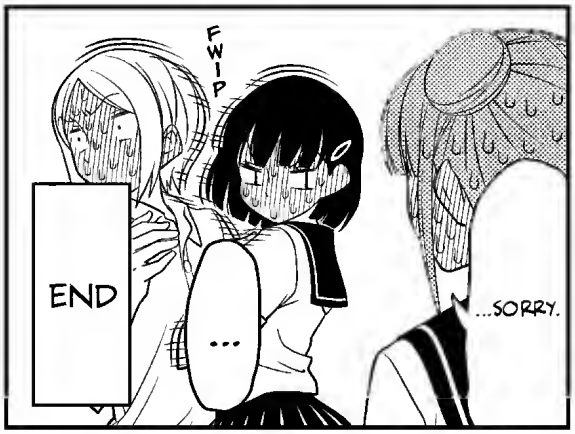

WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH ANY-THING?!
YOU REALLY DON'T GET IT AT ALL!
HUH?! BUT...

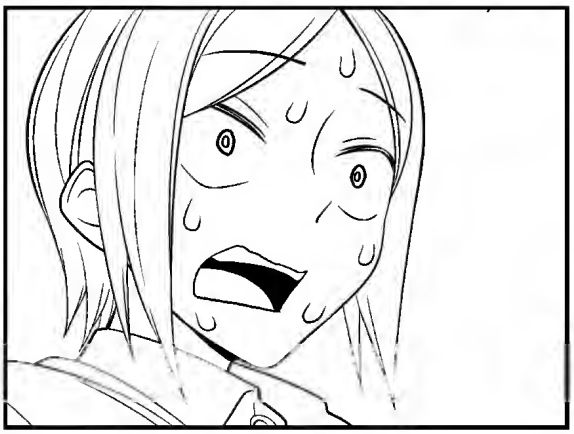
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAIT-ING!
SLIDE SLIDE
NOW, LET'S HEAR WHO KAGA-KUN LI—


IF THAT WAS ALL THERE WAS TO IT,
THEN I WOULDN'T ...
B-BUT... YOU JUST SAID YOU DON'T HATE ME.

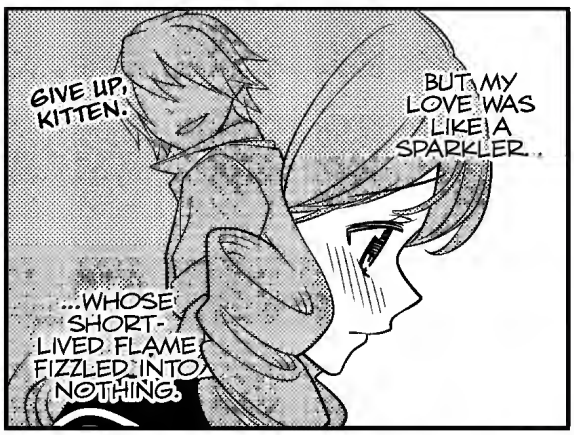


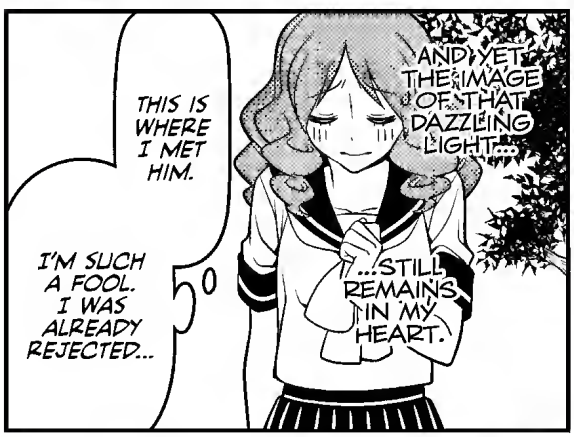
I DE-SPISE YOU!

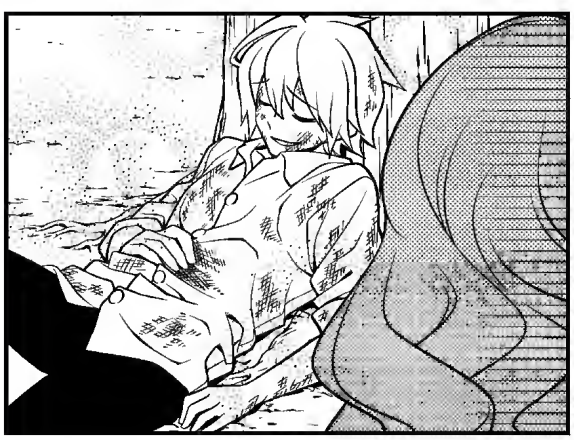

FWIP
END
...
...SORRY.

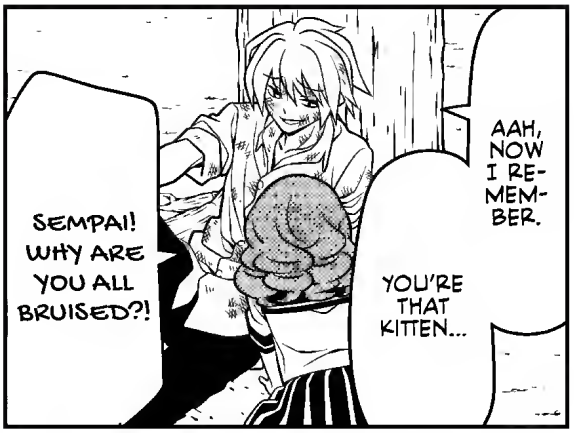


# Wounded Angel



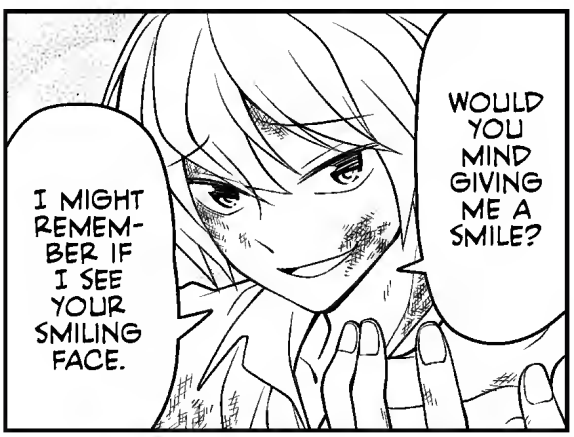

SEMPAI! WHY ARE YOU ALL BRUISED?!
AAH, NOW I REMEMBER.
YOU'RE THAT KITTEN...

K-KA-TORI-SEM-PAI!
WHAT'S THIS?
YOU'RE ...

FWIP
I'LL CALL AN AMBU-LANCE!
OH, THESE?
JUST A LITTLE FIGHT, YOU SEE...

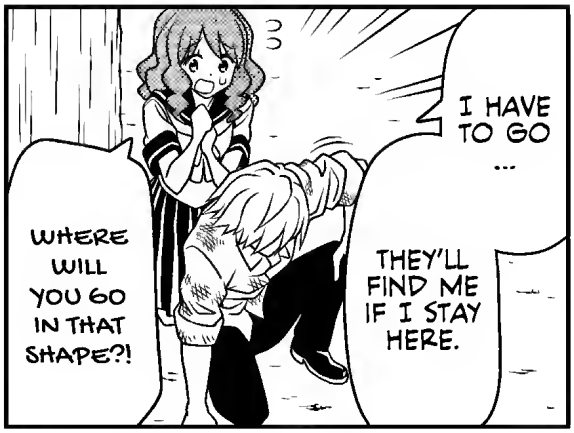
KAZUKO! KAZUKO HOSO-KAWA!
WE MET HERE BEFORE WHEN—
SORRY ...
...BUT I CAN'T REMEM-BER EVERY SINGLE GIRL I'VE MET.

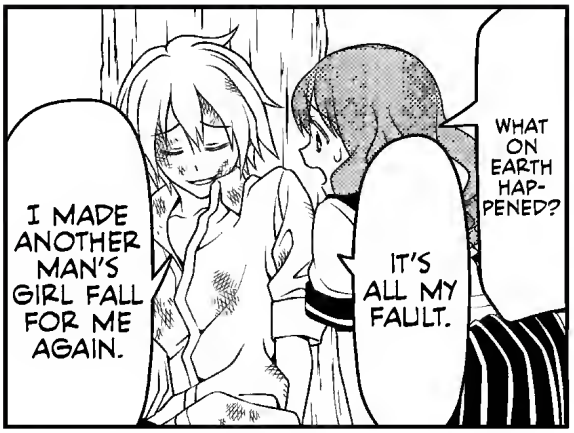
THEY'LL FIND OUT WHERE I AM.
THAT WON'T DO, KITTEN.
SQUEEZE

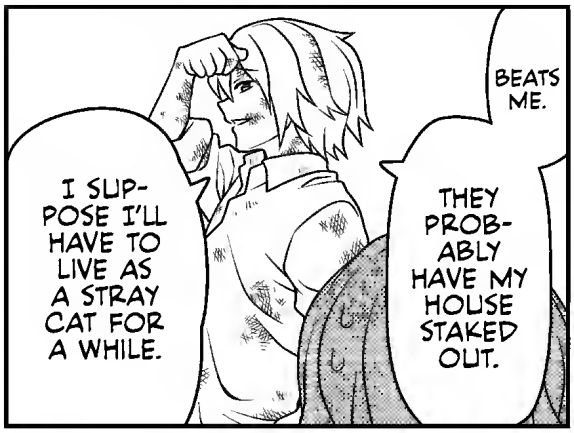

I MIGHT REMEM-BER IF I SEE YOUR SMILING FACE.
WOULD YOU MIND GIVING ME A SMILE?

HE'S BEING PURSUED...!

HOW DREAMY...!

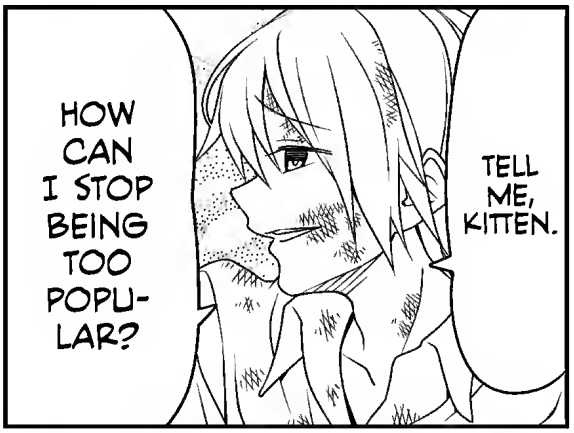

I HAVE TO GO ...
THEY'LL FIND ME IF I STAY HERE.
WHERE WILL YOU GO IN THAT SHAPE?!

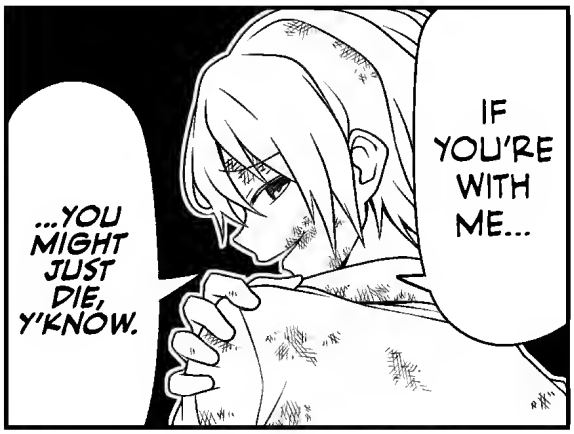

WHAT ON EARTH HAPPENED?
IT'S ALL MY FAULT.
I MADE ANOTHER MAN'S GIRL FALL FOR ME AGAIN.


BEATS ME.
THEY PROBABLY HAVE MY HOUSE STAKED OUT.
I SUPPOSE I'LL HAVE TO LIVE AS A STRAY CAT FOR A WHILE.

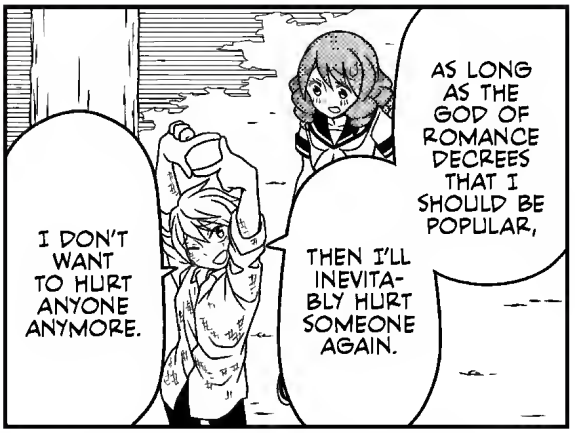
SO HE'S THE ONE WHO BEAT YOU UP?!
THAT'S AWFUL! YOU DIDN'T DESERVE THAT!
NO... I'M THE ONE AT FAULT.

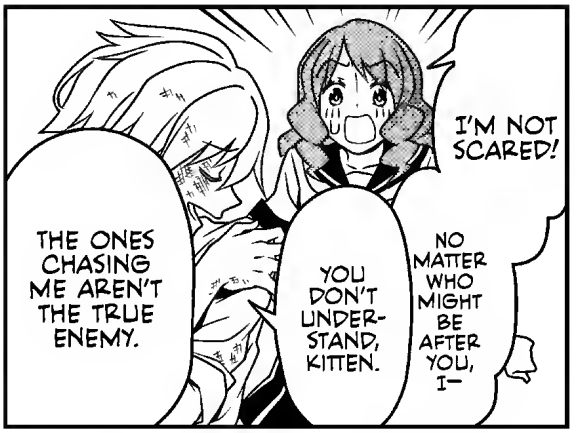
I-IN THAT CASE ...
...COME TO MY HOUSE!

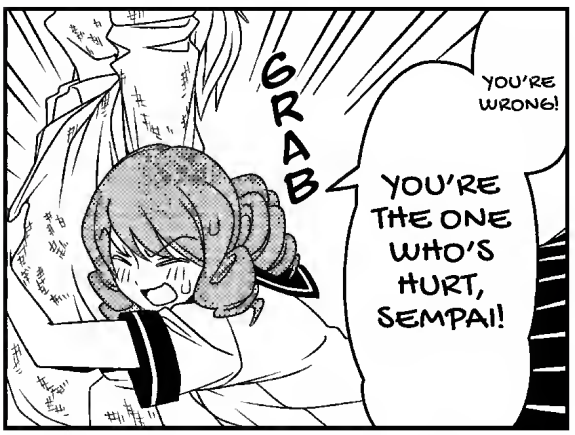

TELL ME, KITTEN.
HOW CAN I STOP BEING TOO POPULAR?


IF YOU'RE WITH ME...
...YOU MIGHT JUST DIE, Y'KNOW.

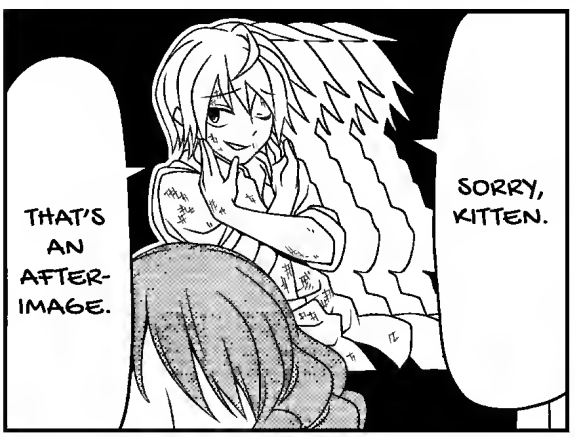
I CAN'T DO IT!
I CAN'T TELL SEMPAI...
...THAT IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!

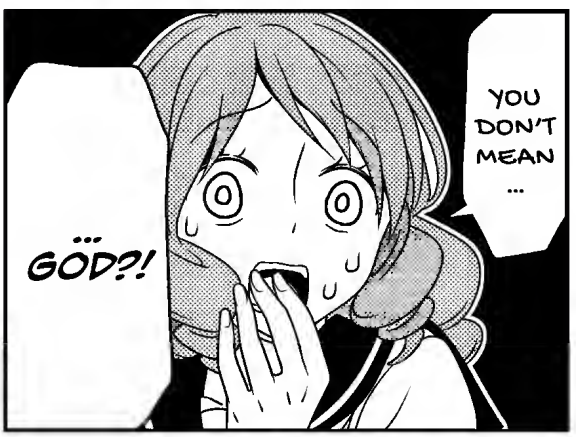

AS LONG AS THE GOD OF ROMANCE DECREES THAT I SHOULD BE POPULAR,
THEN I'LL INEVITABLY HURT SOMEONE AGAIN.
I DON'T WANT TO HURT ANYONE ANYMORE.

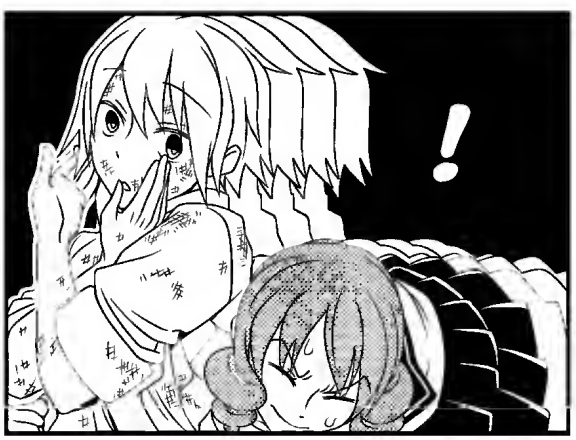

I'M NOT SCARED!
NO MATTER WHO MIGHT BE AFTER YOU, I—
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND, KITTEN.
THE ONES CHASING ME AREN'T THE TRUE ENEMY.

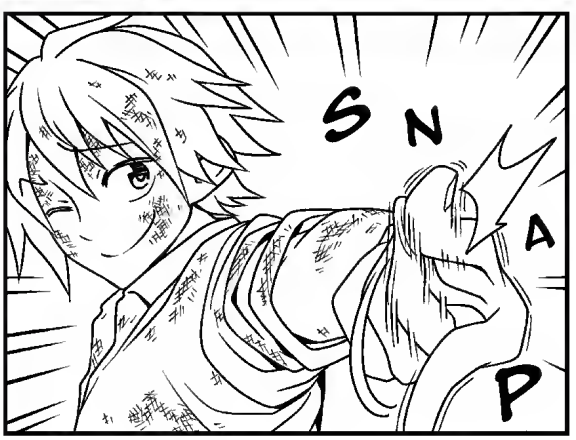

YOU'RE WRONG!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S HURT, SEMPAI!
GRAB

WHY AM I SO POPULAR?
WHO MADE ME THE WAY I AM?
F
S
S
H
H
THERE'S ONLY ONE...
...WHO WIELDS SUCH POWER!

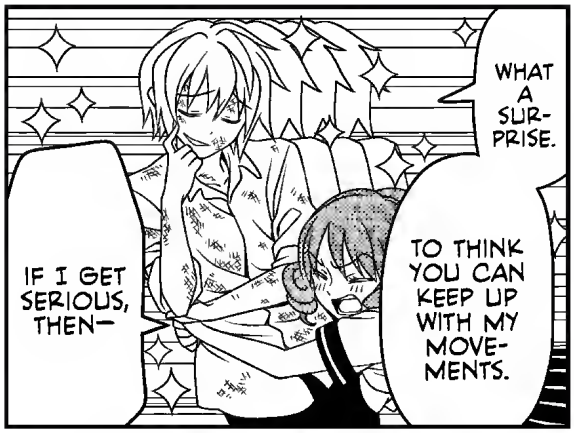

SORRY, KITTEN.
THAT'S AN AFTER-IMAGE.

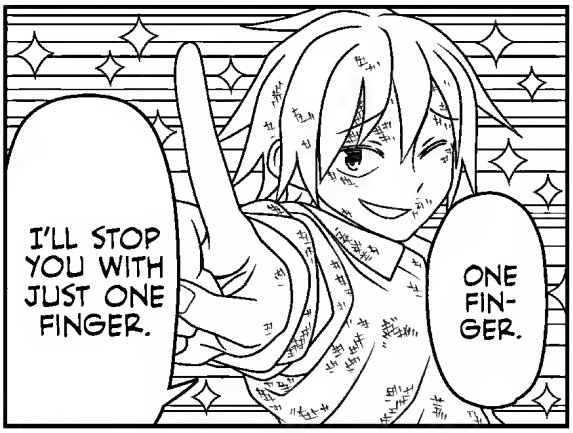

YOU DON'T MEAN ...
...GOD?!


!


S
N
A
P

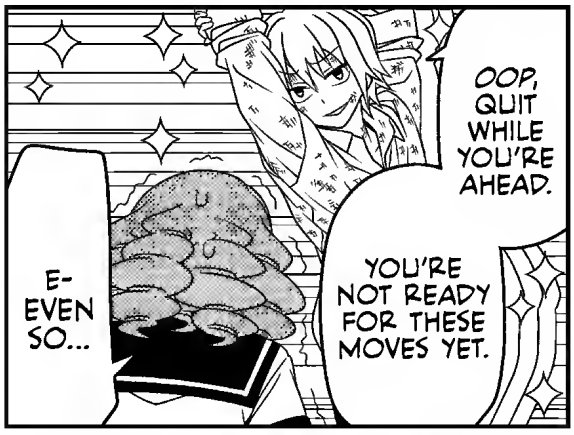
MY, MY, WHAT A PESKY KITTEN...
NO...
PERHAPS I SHOULD CALL YOU A SPLENDID TIGRESS NOW?

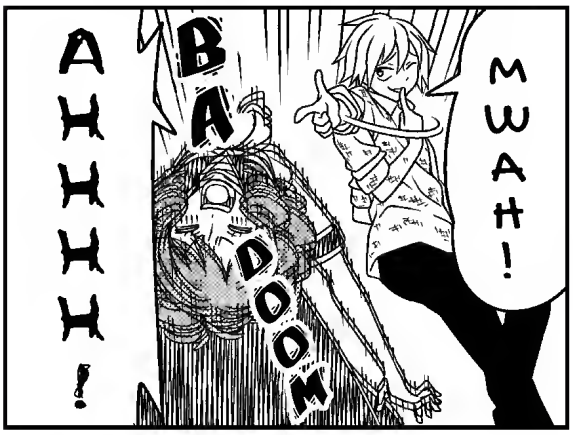

WHAT A SUR-PRISE.
TO THINK YOU CAN KEEP UP WITH MY MOVE-MENTS.
IF I GET SERIOUS, THEN—

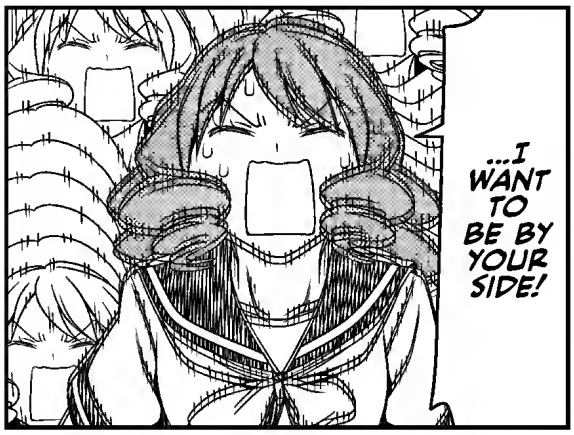

ONE FIN-GER.
I'LL STOP YOU WITH JUST ONE FINGER.

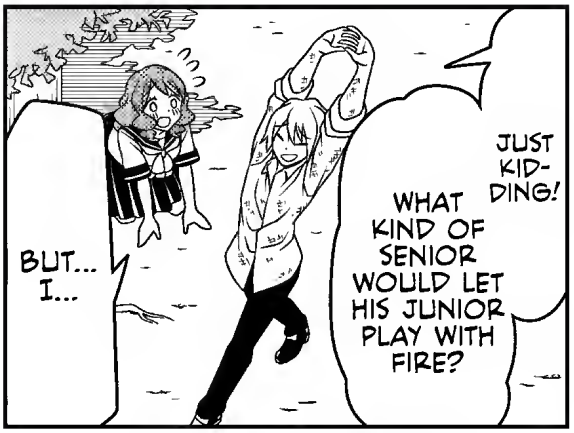
CREAK
CREAK
UGH!

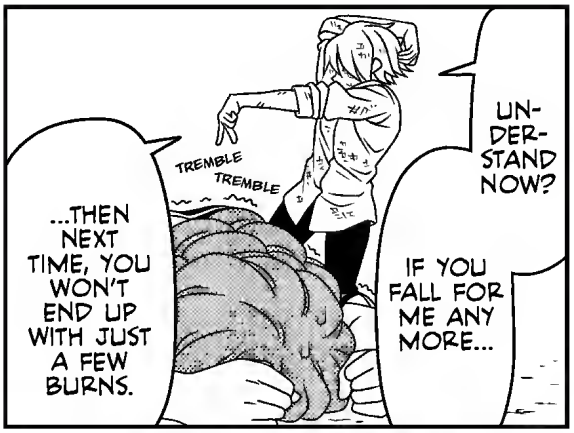
DON'T TREAT ME LIKE A FOOL!
THERE'S NO WAY YOU COULD STOP ME WITH JUST—

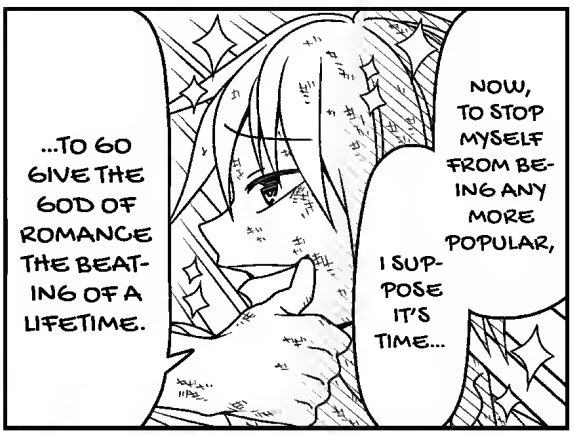

OOP, QUIT WHILE YOU'RE AHEAD.
YOU'RE NOT READY FOR THESE MOVES YET.
E-EVEN SO...


MWAH!
BADOOK
AHHHHH!

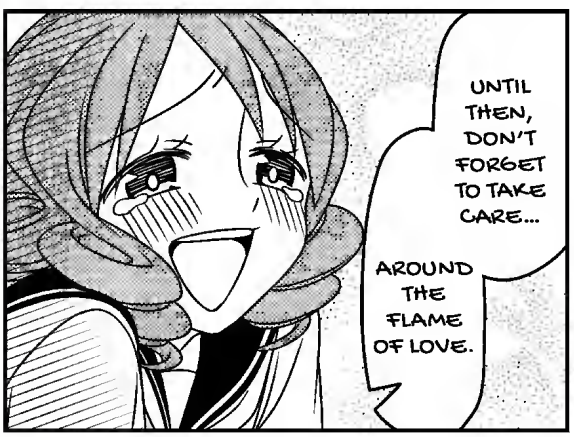

...I WANT TO BE BY YOUR SIDE!

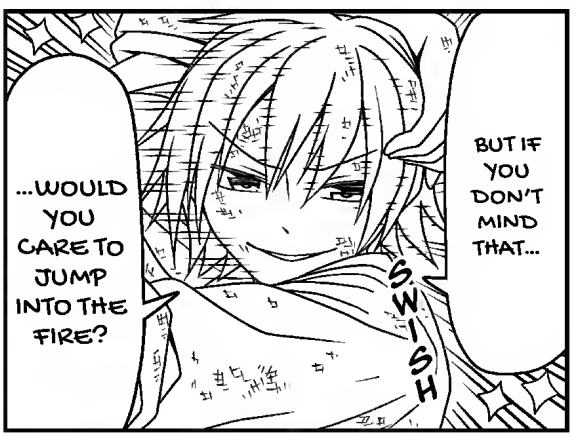

JUST KIDDING!
WHAT KIND OF SENIOR WOULD LET HIS JUNIOR PLAY WITH FIRE?
BUT... I...

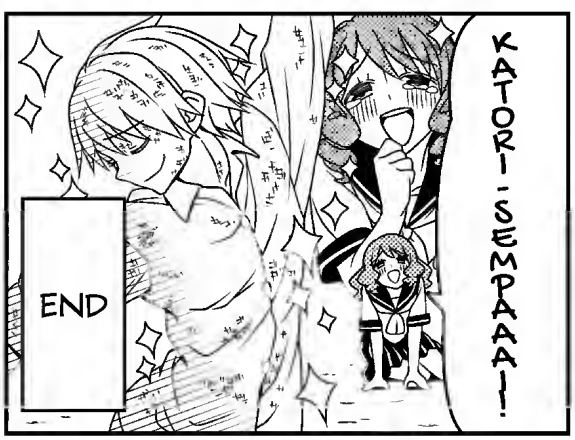

UNDERSTAND NOW?
IF YOU FALL FOR ME ANY MORE...
TREMBLE TREMBLE
...THEN NEXT TIME, YOU WON'T END UP WITH JUST A FEW BURNS.

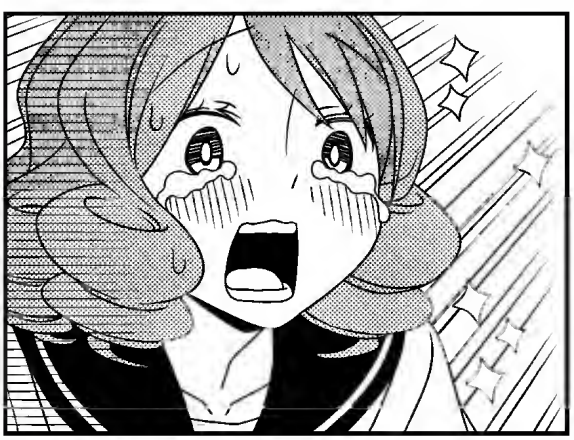

NOW, TO STOP MYSELF FROM BEING ANY MORE POPULAR,
I SUPPOSE IT'S TIME...
...TO GO GIVE THE GOD OF ROMANCE THE BEATING OF A LIFETIME.

UUH...
I GUESS...
...SOMEONE LIKE ME REALLY CAN'T REACH YOU!

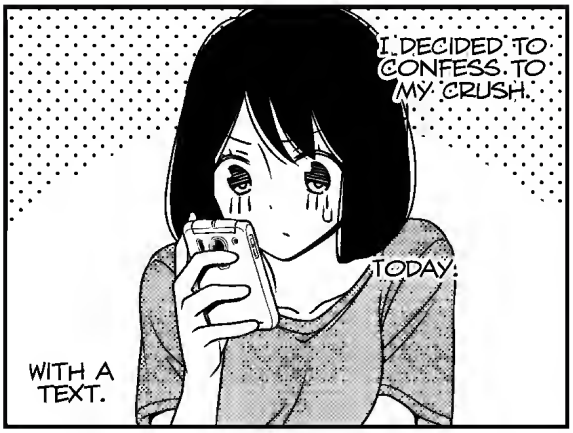

UNTIL THEN, DON'T FORGET TO TAKE CARE...
AROUND THE FLAME OF LOVE.


BUT IF YOU DON'T MIND THAT...
SWISH
...WOULD YOU CARE TO JUMP INTO THE FIRE?

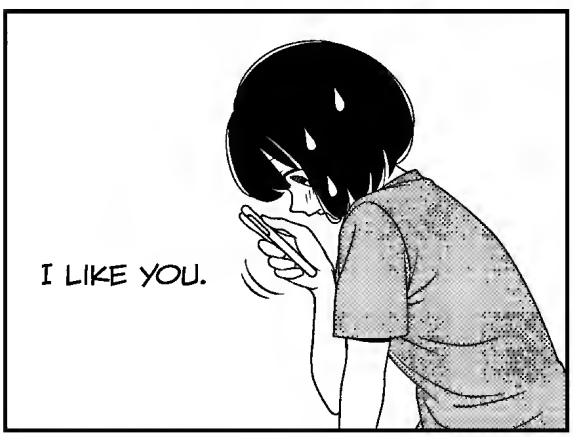

KATORI-SEMPAAA!!
END

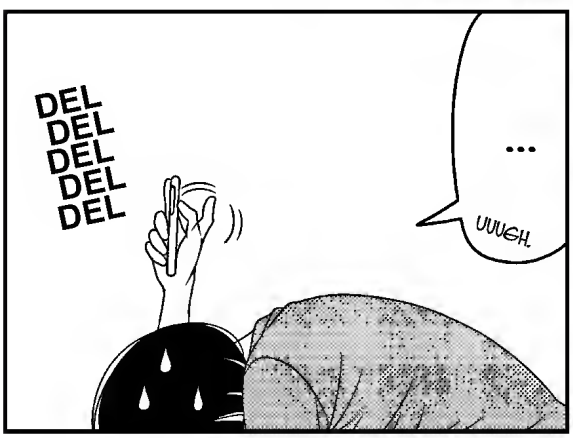


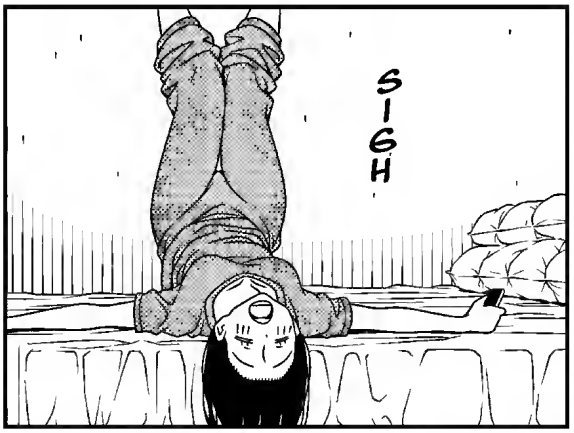
# Re:

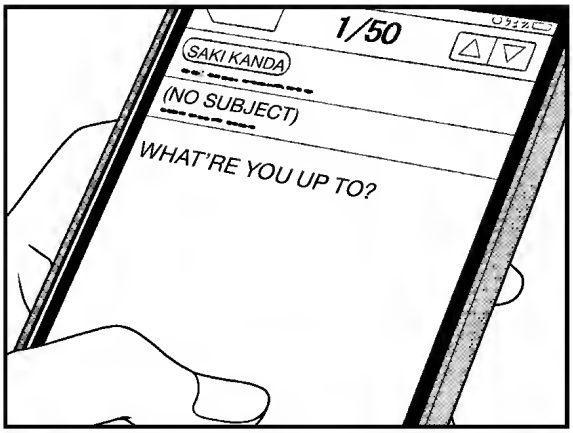

I DECIDED TO CONFESS TO MY CRUSH.
TODAY.
WITH A TEXT.

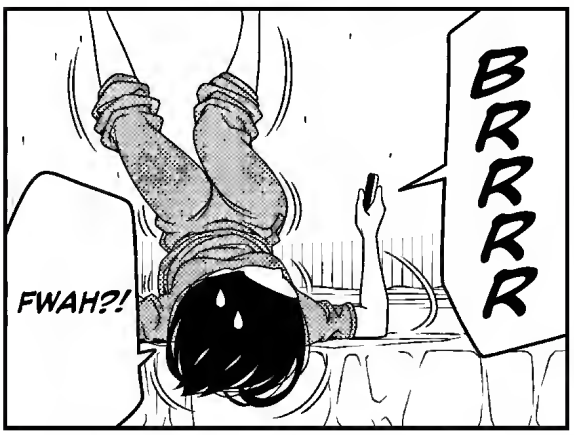
HEY, TAKASE.
I KNOW I'M A CHICKEN FOR DOING THIS...
...BUT EVERY TIME I TRY TO TELL YOU IN PERSON, I SPAZ OUT AND CAN'T BE HONEST, SO LET ME TELL YOU IN A TEXT, OKAY?


I LIKE YOU.

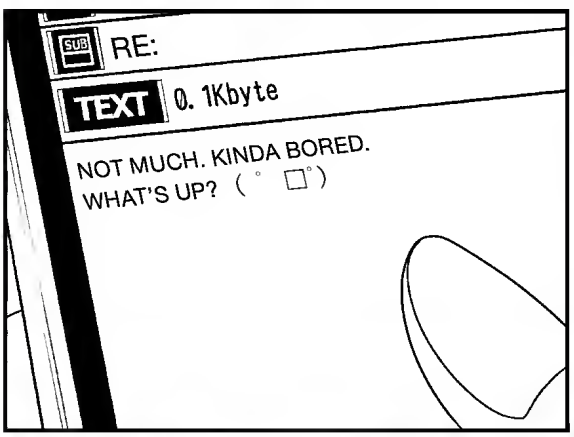

DEL
DEL
DEL
DEL
DEL
...
UUUGH.


SIGH

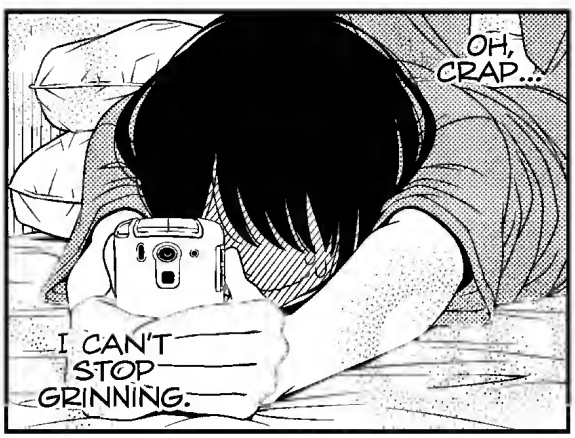

1/50
SAKI KANDA
(NO SUBJECT)
WHAT'RE YOU UP TO?


BRRRR
FWAH?!

IT'S FROM KANDA!
OH, MAN, I CAN'T STOP GRINNING.


SUB
RE:
TEXT
0. 1Kbyte
NOT MUCH. KINDA BORED.
WHAT'S UP? ( ゜ □゜)

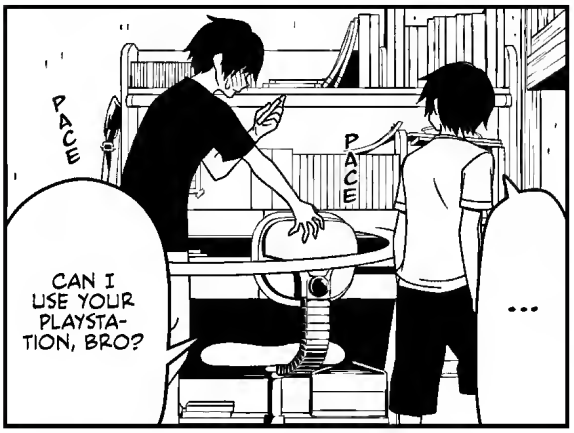
TAKING... A...
...SHIT!

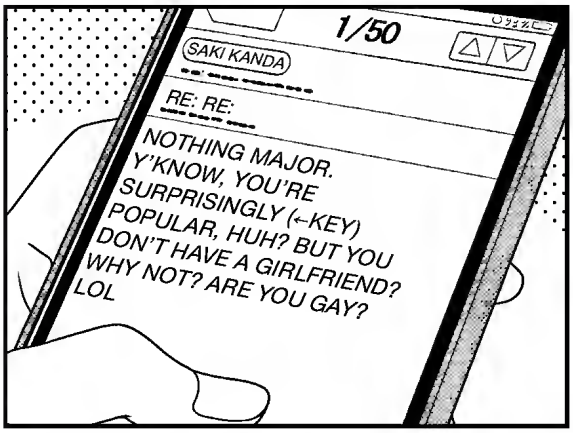

OH, CRAP...
I CAN'T STOP GRINNING.

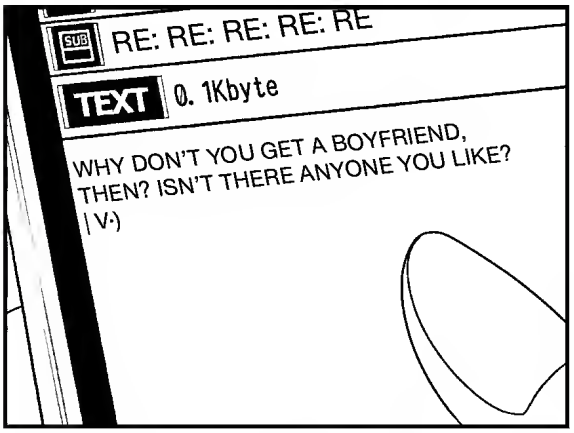
I'M TALKING TO A GIRL HERE.

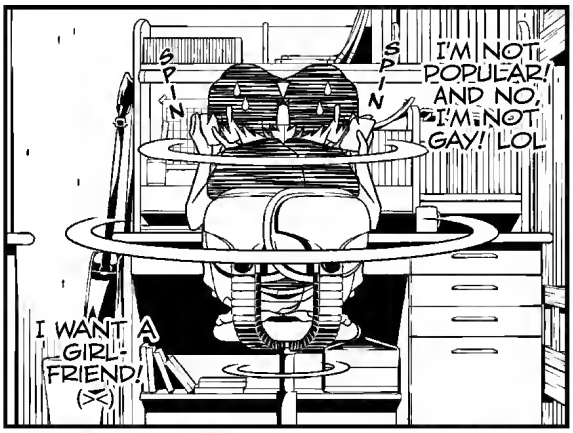
1/50
SAKI KANDA
RE: RE: RE: RE:
OHH? YOU DO, HUH? LOL
I WANT A BOYFRIEND, TOO!
(>_<)

I HAVE TO SET THINGS UP FOR A CONFESSION.

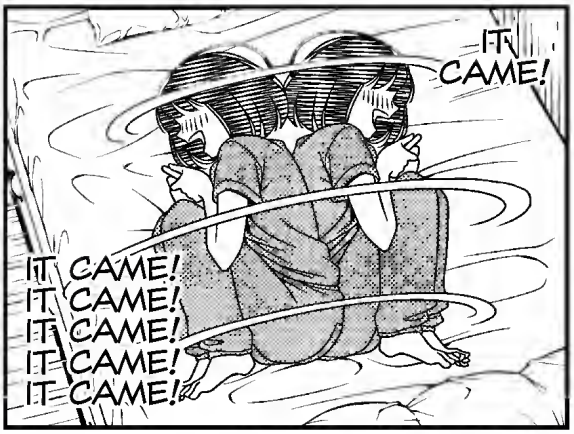

PACE
PACE
CAN I USE YOUR PLAYSTATION, BRO?
...


1/50
SAKI KANDA
RE: RE:
NOTHING MAJOR.
Y'KNOW, YOU'RE SURPRISINGLY (←KEY) POPULAR, HUH? BUT YOU DON'T HAVE A GIRLFRIEND?
WHY NOT? ARE YOU GAY?
LOL

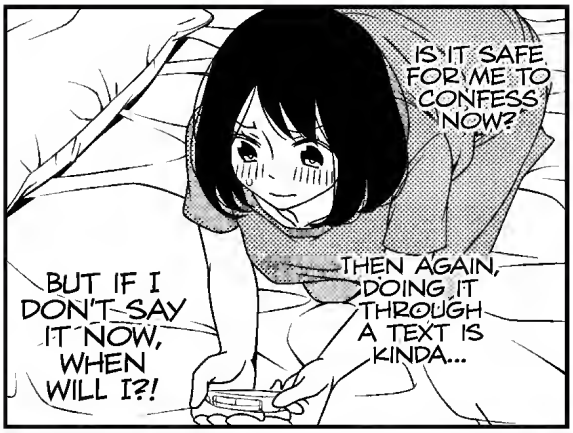

SUB
RE: RE: RE: RE: RE
TEXT
0. 1Kbyte
WHY DON'T YOU GET A BOYFRIEND, THEN? ISN'T THERE ANYONE YOU LIKE?
(V·)


SPIN
SPIN
I'M NOT POPULAR! AND NO, I'M NOT GAY! LOL
I WANT A GIRLFRIEND! (><)

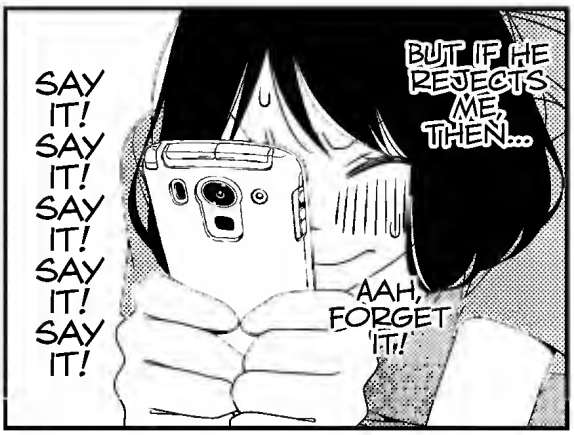
SAKI-CHAN, DO YOU WANT SOME PEACHES?
I'M FINE!
WAIT, YES!


IT CAME!
IT CAME!
IT CAME!
IT CAME!
IT CAME!
IT CAME!

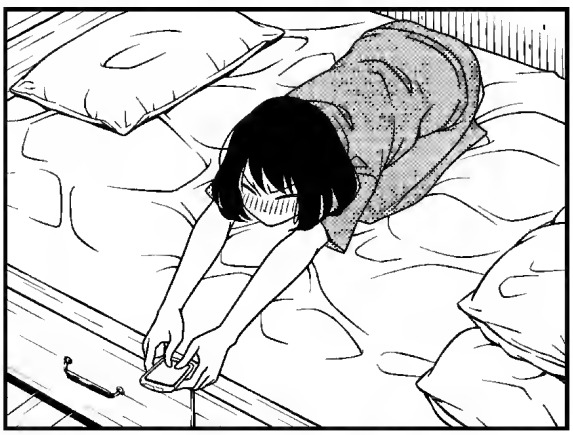
...
NO REPLY.
WAS THAT WEIRD FOR ME TO ASK?

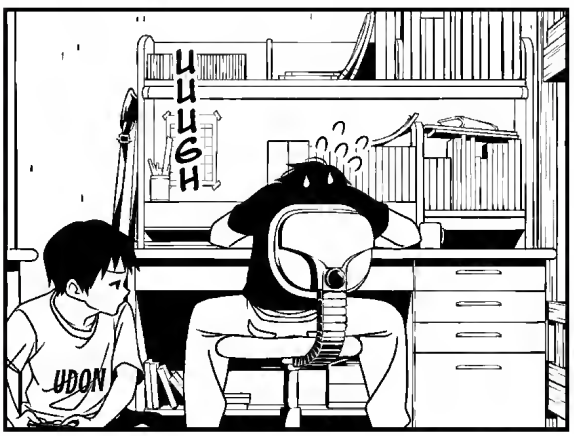

IS IT SAFE FOR ME TO CONFESS NOW?
THEN AGAIN, DOING IT THROUGH A TEXT IS KINDA...
BUT IF I DON'T SAY IT NOW, WHEN WILL I?!

Y'KNOW, THE WAY THIS CONVERSATION IS GOING...
...Y'THINK IT'S OKAY FOR ME-TO CONFESS?
NAH, DOING IT THROUGH A TEXT IS KINDA...

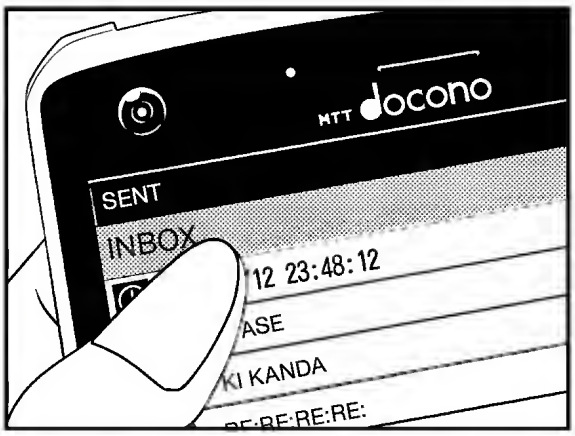

BUT IF HE REJECTS ME, THEN...
SAY IT! SAY IT! SAY IT! SAY IT! SAY IT!
AAH, FORGET IT!

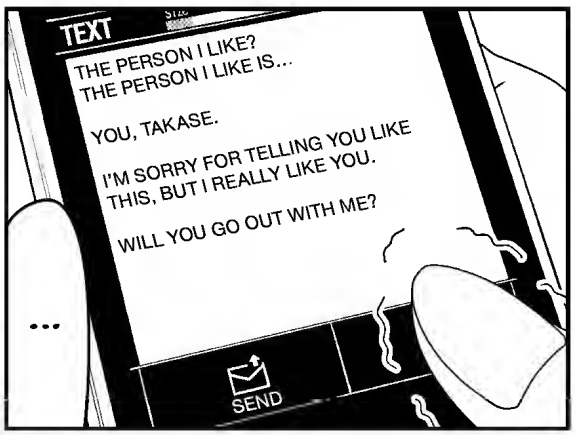
UDON



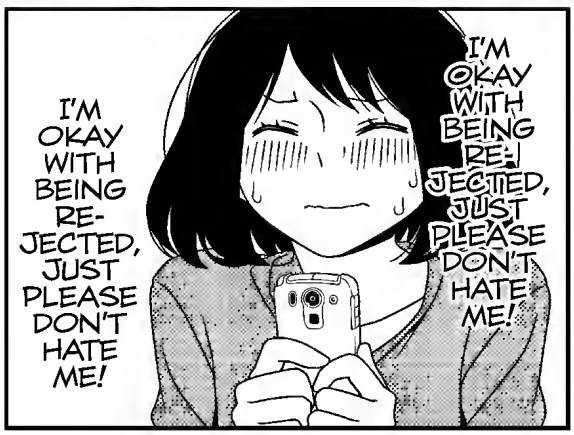

UUUGH
UDON

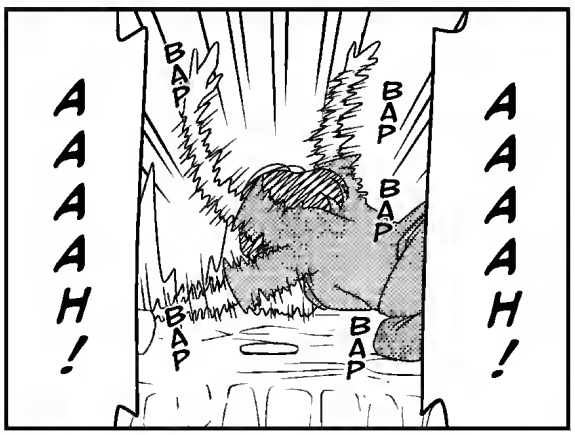
UUUGH

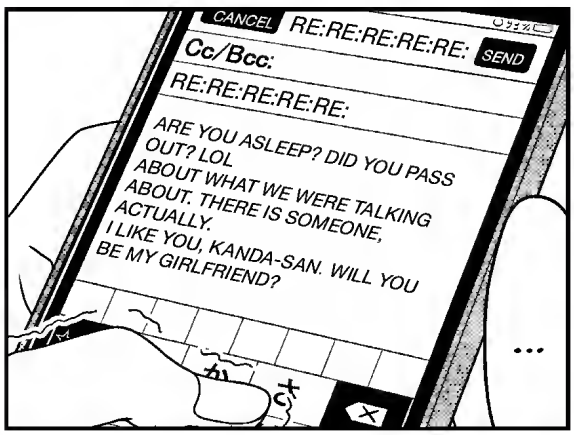

docomo
SENT
INBOX
12 23:48:12
ASE
KI KANDA
RE:RE:RE:RE:

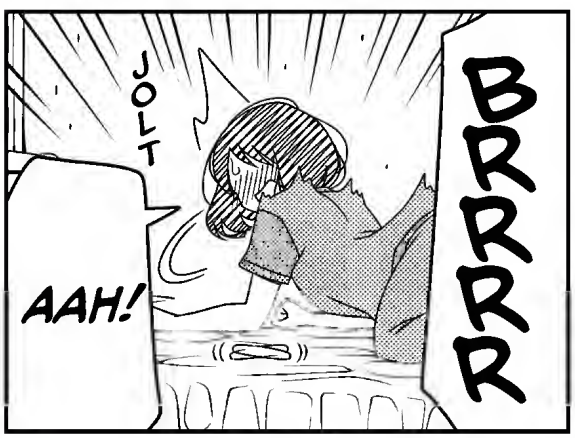

TEXT
THE PERSON I LIKE?
THE PERSON I LIKE IS...
YOU, TAKASE.
I'M SORRY FOR TELLING YOU LIKE THIS, BUT I REALLY LIKE YOU.
WILL YOU GO OUT WITH ME?
...
SEND

TREMBLE
TREMBLE

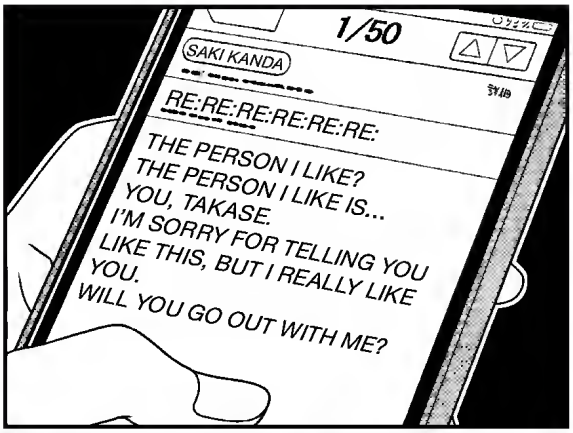

I'M OKAY WITH BEING RE-JECTED, JUST PLEASE DON'T HATE ME!
I'M OKAY WITH BEING RE-JECTED, JUST PLEASE DON'T HATE ME!

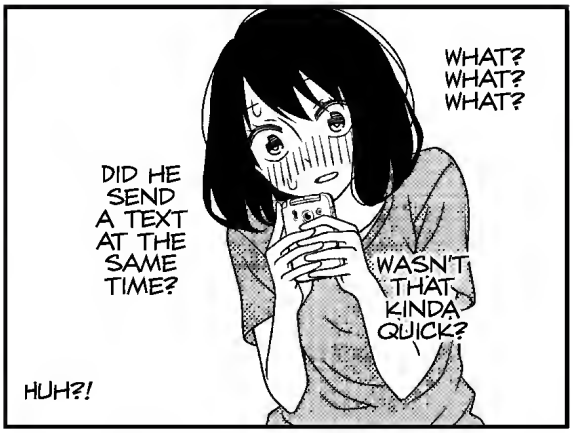

AAAAH!
AAAAH!
BAP
BAP
BAP
BAP
BAP

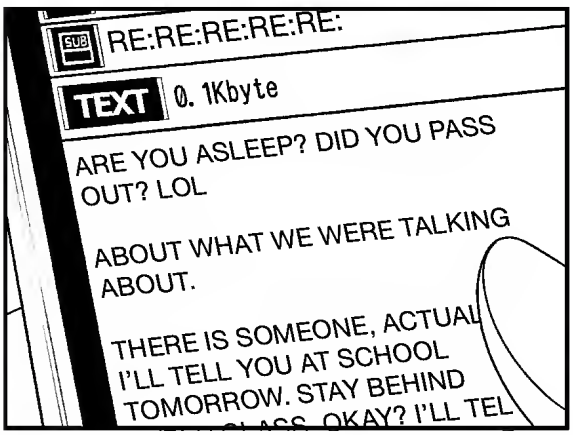

CANCEL
RE:RE:RE:RE:RE:
SEND
Cc/Bcc:
RE:RE:RE:RE:RE:
ARE YOU ASLEEP? DID YOU PASS OUT? LOL
ABOUT WHAT WE WERE TALKING ABOUT. THERE IS SOMEONE, ACTUALLY.
I LIKE YOU, KANDA-SAN. WILL YOU BE MY GIRLFRIEND?
...

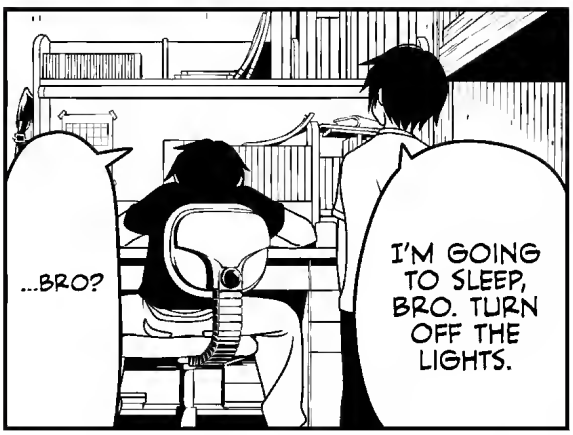

BRRRR
JOLT
AAH!

SHOULD I GO FOR IT?! BUT IT'S A TEXT!
NO, IT SHOULD BE FINE. THE MOOD IS RIGHT. BUT A TEXT, MAN!

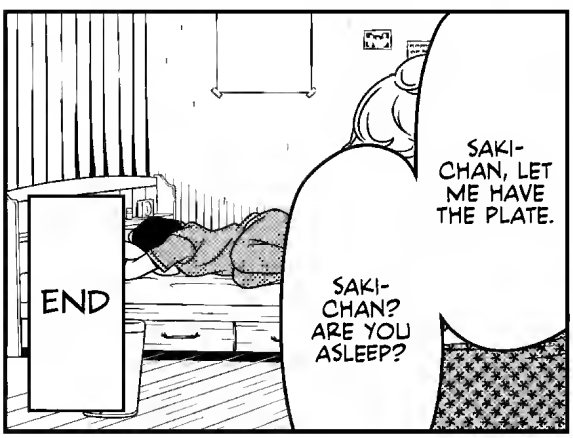

1/50
SAKI KANDA
RE:RE:RE:RE:RE:RE:
THE PERSON I LIKE?
THE PERSON I LIKE IS...
YOU, TAKASE.
I'M SORRY FOR TELLING YOU LIKE THIS, BUT I REALLY LIKE YOU.
WILL YOU GO OUT WITH ME?


WHAT? WHAT? WHAT?
DID HE SEND A TEXT AT THE SAME TIME?
WASN'T THAT KINDA QUICK?
HUH?!

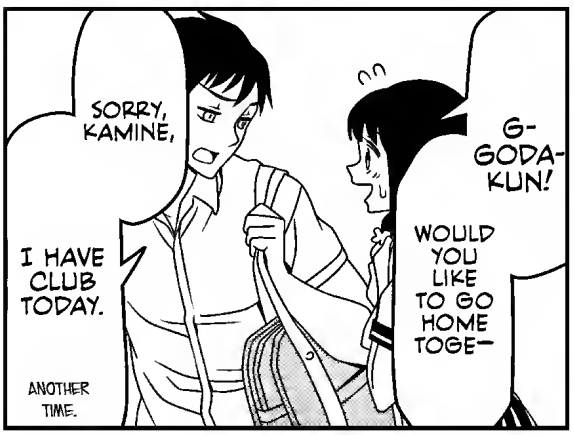

SUB
RE:RE:RE:RE:RE:
TEXT
0.1Kbyte
ARE YOU ASLEEP? DID YOU PASS OUT? LOL
ABOUT WHAT WE WERE TALKING ABOUT.
THERE IS SOMEONE, ACTUAL
I'LL TELL YOU AT SCHOOL TOMORROW. STAY BEHIND

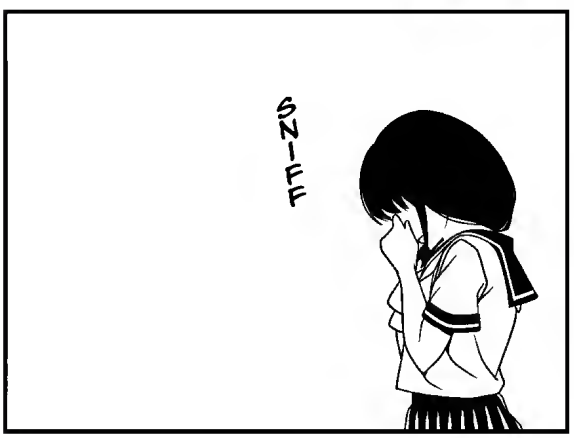

...BRO?
I'M GOING TO SLEEP, BRO. TURN OFF THE LIGHTS.

Y'KNOW, THERE ARE
WHO TRY TO CONFESS THROUG
TEXTS AND STUFF, BUT DON'T
YOU THINK THAT SHIT'S THE
WORST? LOL
(WHERE'D THAT COME FROM,
RIGHT?)
I'M OUT. GOOD NIGHT!
☆彡


END
SAKI-CHAN, LET ME HAVE THE PLATE.
SAKI-CHAN? ARE YOU ASLEEP?

# I'm Watching You From Afar

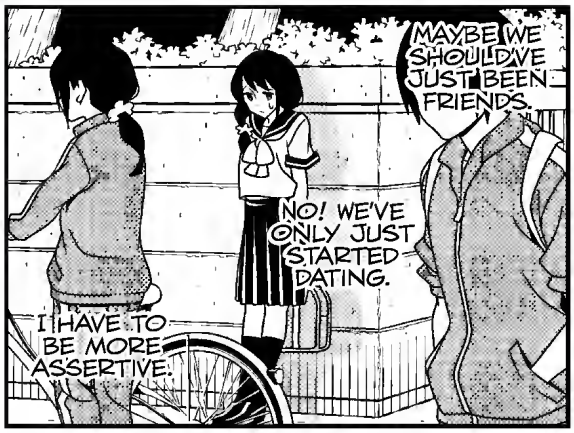


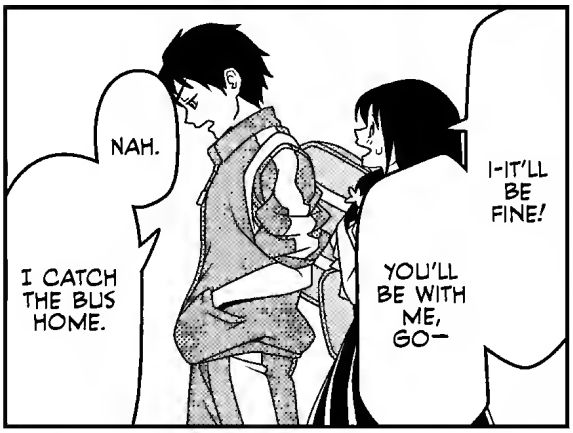


S-SORRY.
I HAD SOMETHING TO TAKE CARE OF.
NAH.
SORRY TO MAKE YOU WAIT.

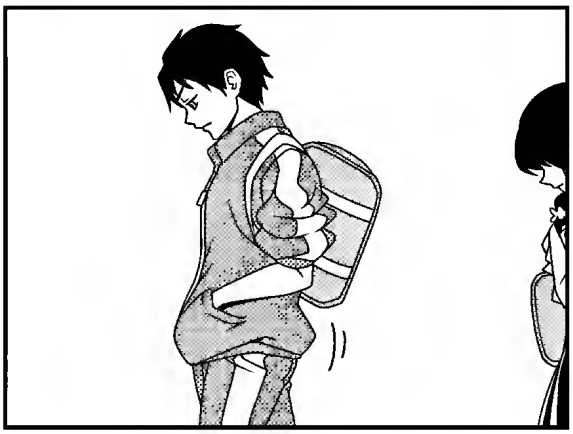
I NEED TO SORT OUT MY FEELINGS.
WHEN I CONFESSED, HE SAID, "I HOPE WE CAN GET ALONG."
BUT IT SEEMS LIKE IT REALLY DID BOTHER HIM.

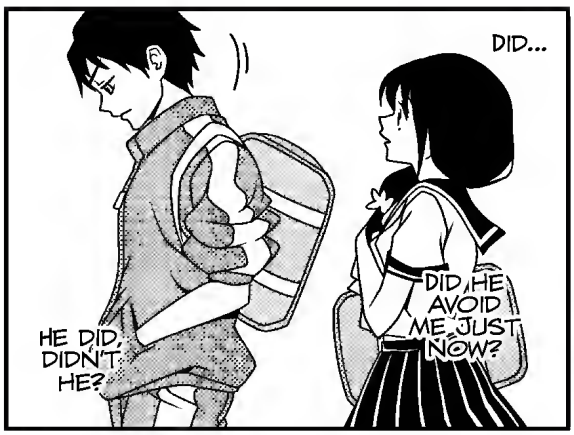
I USUALLY STAY BEHIND LATE WHEN I HAVE CLUB.
LET'S GO HOME TOGETHER NEXT—
NAH.
IT'S DANGEROUS TO WALK AROUND LATE.

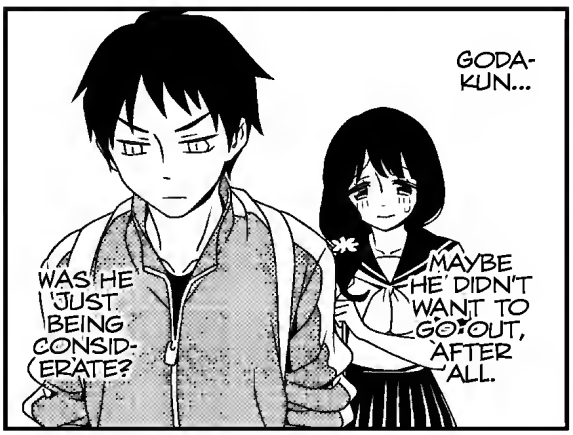

MAYBE WE SHOULD'VE JUST BEEN FRIENDS.
NO! WE'VE ONLY JUST STARTED DATING.
I HAVE TO BE MORE ASSERTIVE.

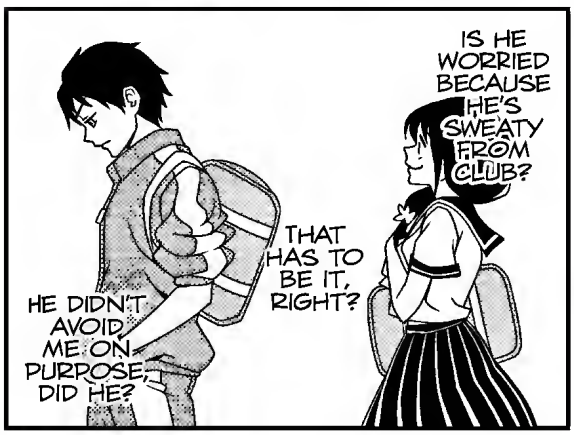

I-IT'LL BE FINE!
YOU'LL BE WITH ME, GO—
NAH.
I CATCH THE BUS HOME.

WHAT'S UP, KAMINE?
YOU'RE STILL HERE?



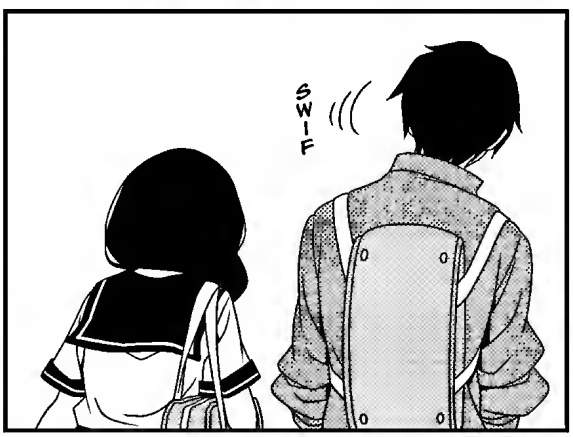

DID...
DID HE AVOID ME JUST NOW?
HE DID, DIDN'T HE?

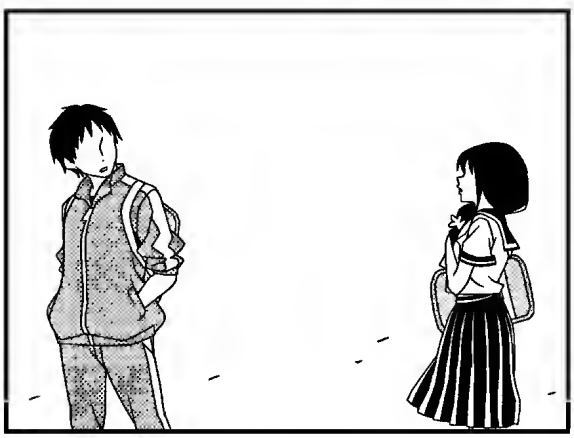

GODA-KUN...
WAS HE JUST BEING CONSID-ERATE?
MAYBE HE DIDN'T WANT TO GO OUT, AFTER ALL.

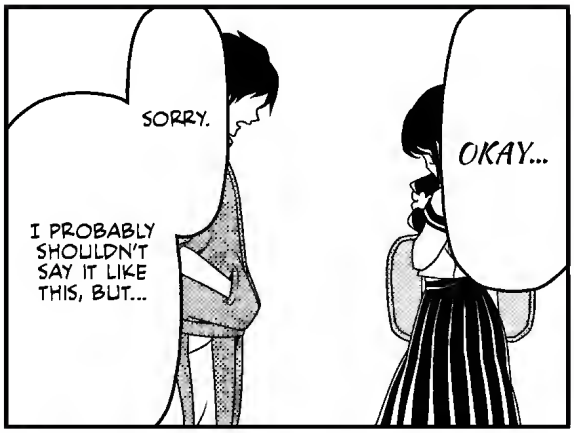

IS HE WORRIED BECAUSE HE'S SWEATY FROM CLUB?
THAT HAS TO BE IT, RIGHT?
HE DIDN'T AVOID ME ON PURPOSE, DID HE?

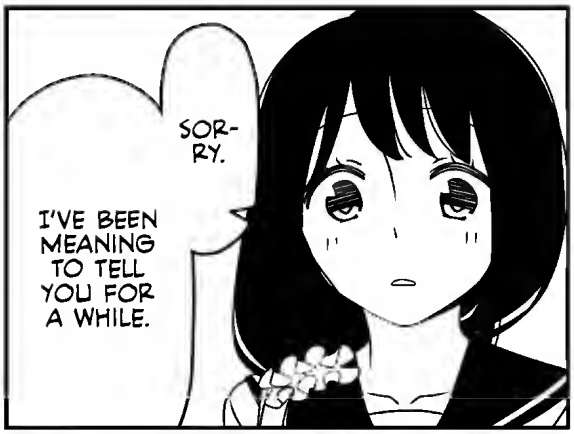
...NO!
TAP TAP TAP
GODA-KUN'S JUST NICE.
UNTIL NOW, HE'S ALWAYS–

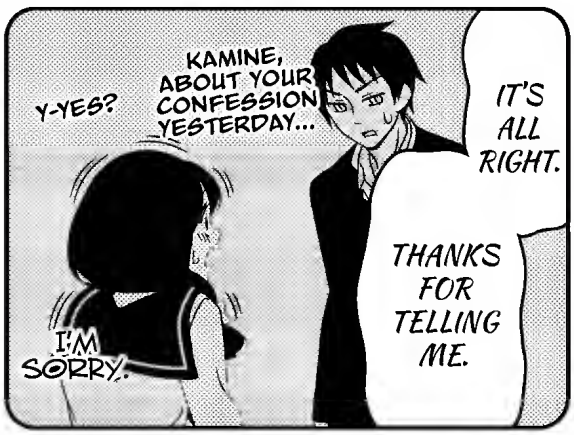
KAMINE.
WHY DON'T WE JUST STOP ALL THIS?

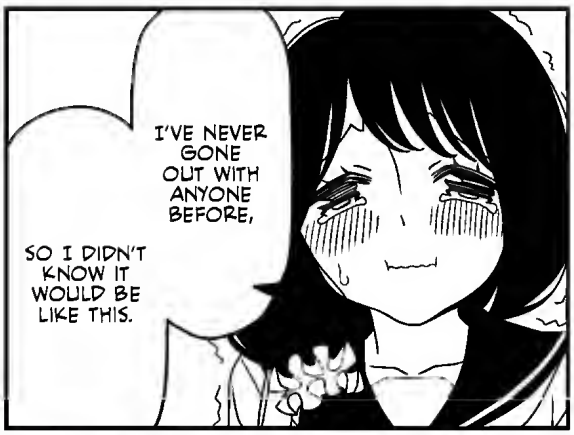

SWIF



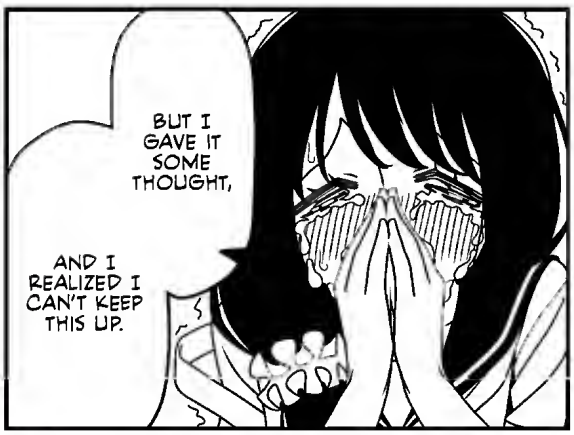

SORRY.
I PROBABLY SHOULDN'T SAY IT LIKE THIS, BUT...
OKAY...

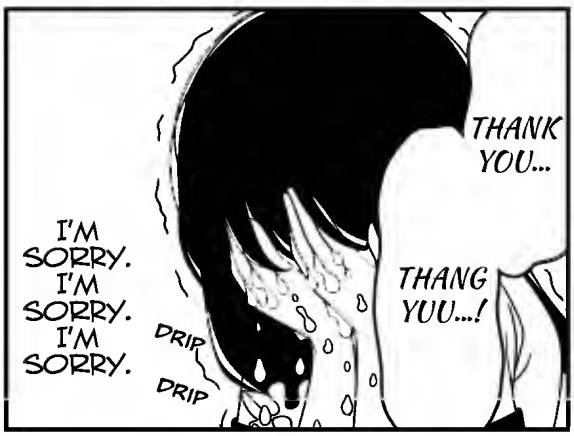

SOR-
RY.
I'VE BEEN MEANING TO TELL YOU FOR A WHILE.

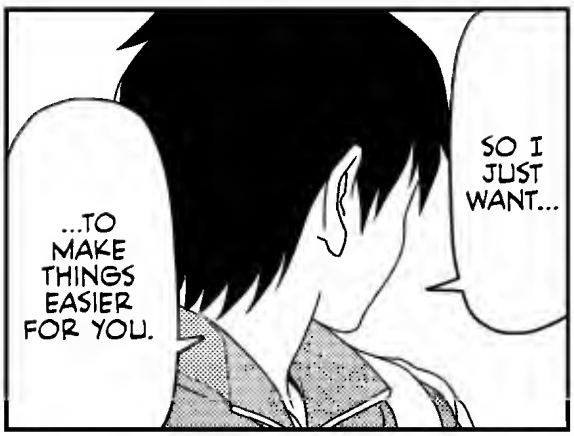

KAMINE, ABOUT YOUR CONFESSION YESTERDAY...
Y-YES?
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
THANKS FOR TELLING ME.
I'M SORRY.


I'VE NEVER GONE OUT WITH ANYONE BEFORE,
SO I DIDN'T KNOW IT WOULD BE LIKE THIS.

UMM...
THANK YOU...
FOR GOING OUT WITH ME.
I'M SORRY. I'M SORRY.
I HOPE WE CAN GET ALONG.


BUT I GAVE IT SOME THOUGHT,
AND I REALIZED I CAN'T KEEP THIS UP.


THANK YOU...
THANG YUU...!
I'M SORRY. I'M SORRY. I'M SORRY.
DRIP
DRIP


SO I JUST WANT...
...TO MAKE THINGS EASIER FOR YOU.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
HUH?! MY BAD! IS IT TOO SOON FOR THAT?
I DIDN'T MEAN ANYTHING INDECENT.

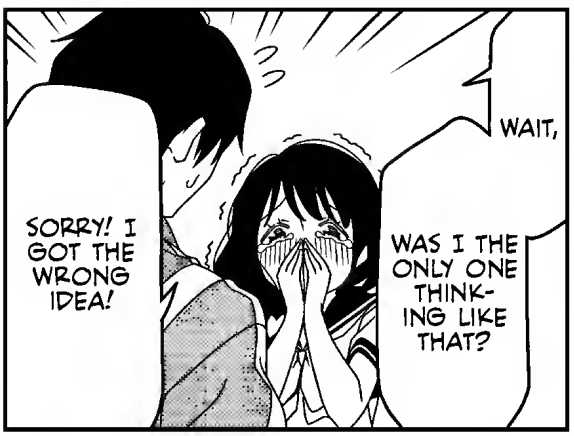
S-SORRY.
I DIDN'T MEAN TO MAKE YOU CRY OR ANYTHING.
IT'S FINE.
DO YOU THINK WE CAN GO BACK TO HOW WE WERE BEFORE?

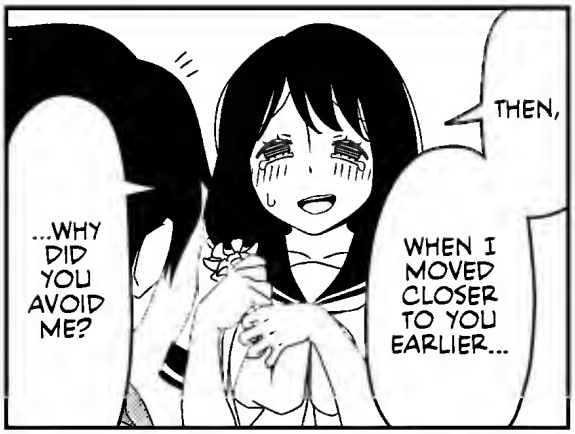
NOT THAT.
AREN'T YOU BREAKING UP WITH ME?
WHAT?!
I NEVER SAID THAT!

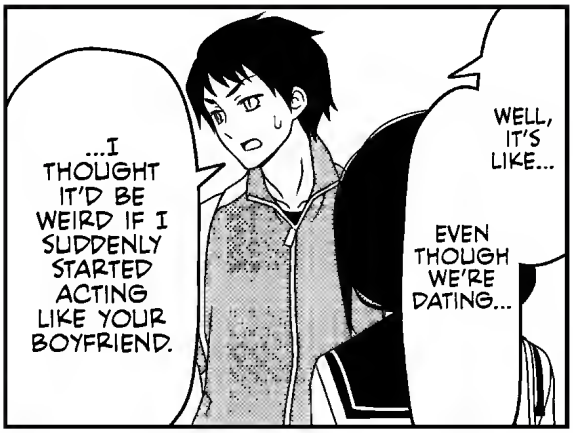
I'D LIKE THAT,
BUT WE PROBABLY CAN'T GO BACK COMPLETELY.
YEAH...
I GUESS THAT'S MY FAULT...

I MEANT WE SHOULD STOP...
...BEING SO AWKWARD AROUND EACH OTHER...
...AND RELAX A LITTLE MORE, Y'KNOW?

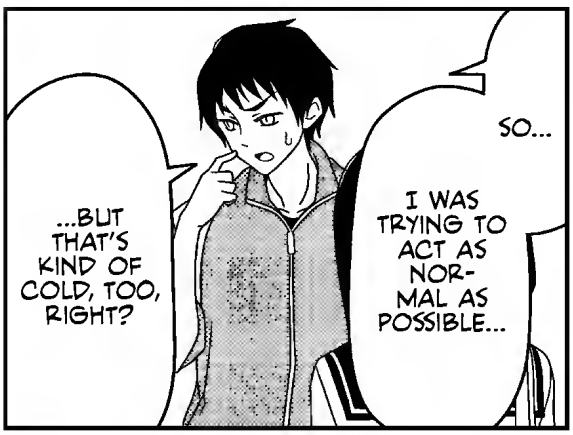
WHY DON'T WE TRY HOLDING HANDS FROM NOW ON?
WE ARE GOING OUT, AFTER ALL...

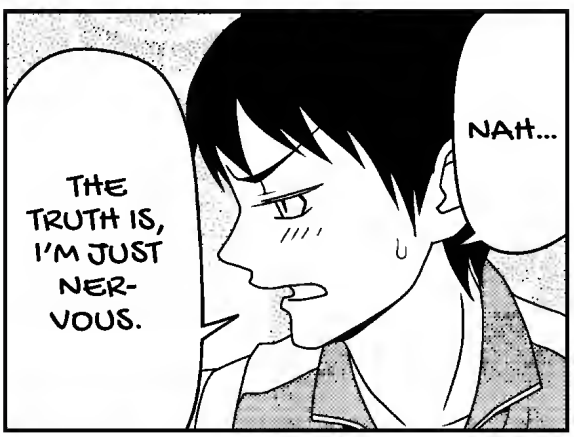

WAIT,
WAS I THE ONLY ONE THINKING LIKE THAT?
SORRY! I GOT THE WRONG IDEA!

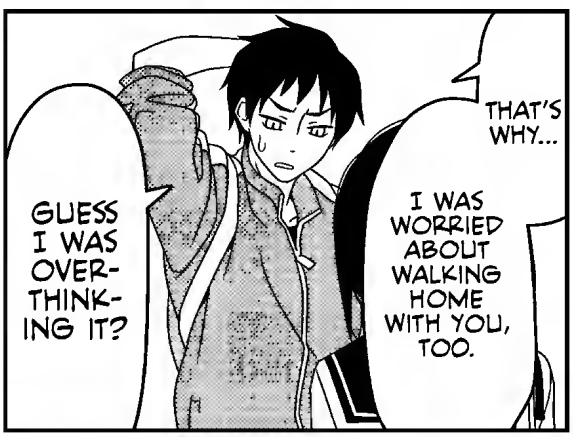

THEN,
WHEN I MOVED CLOSER TO YOU EARLIER...
...WHY DID YOU AVOID ME?


WELL, IT'S LIKE...
EVEN THOUGH WE'RE DATING...
...I THOUGHT IT'D BE WEIRD IF I SUDDENLY STARTED ACTING LIKE YOUR BOYFRIEND.

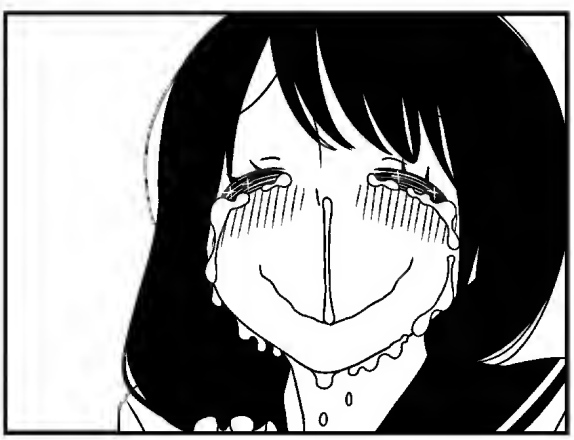
THAT'S, UHH...
...BECAUSE I'M ALL SWEATY FROM CLUB, AND...


SO...
I WAS TRYING TO ACT AS NORMAL AS POSSIBLE...
...BUT THAT'S KIND OF COLD, TOO, RIGHT?


NAH...
THE TRUTH IS, I'M JUST NERVOUS.


THAT'S WHY...
I WAS WORRIED ABOUT WALKING HOME WITH YOU, TOO.
GUESS I WAS OVERTHINKING IT?

GRAB
END



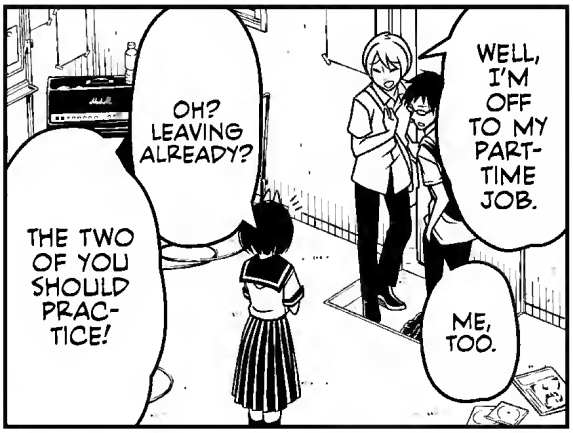
# Friction

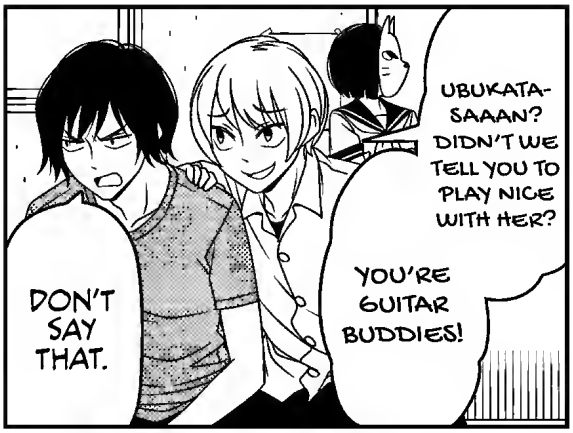
A WEIRDO JOINED OUR LIGHT MUSIC CLUB.
SOOO,
ABOUT THE SONGS WE'RE GOING TO PLAY AT THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL.

SHE THINKS SHE'S HIDING HER IDENTITY.
IF WE WANT ONES STUDENTS KNOW AND CAN GROOVE TO, "BY THE WAY" BY THE RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS IS...
HEY, SHIBASAKI.

UBUKATA-SAN?
MY NAME IS MISS WABI-SABI.
HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU?
ALSO, RAISE YOUR HAND WHEN YOU WISH TO—

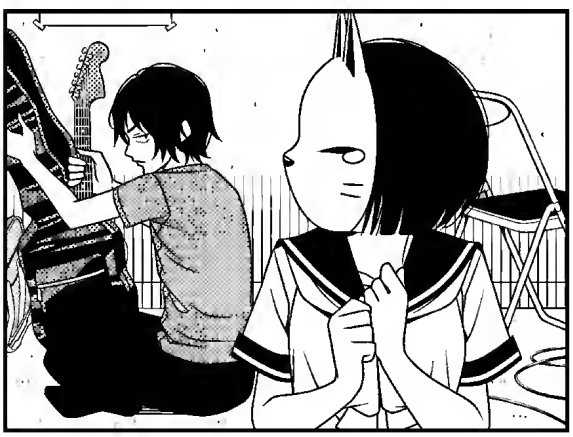
NO VIOLENCE!
NO VIOLENCE!


WELL, I'M OFF TO MY PART-TIME JOB.
OH? LEAVING ALREADY?
ME, TOO.
THE TWO OF YOU SHOULD PRAC-TICE!


UBUKATA-SAAAN? DIDN'T WE TELL YOU TO PLAY NICE WITH HER?
YOU'RE GUITAR BUDDIES!
DON'T SAY THAT.

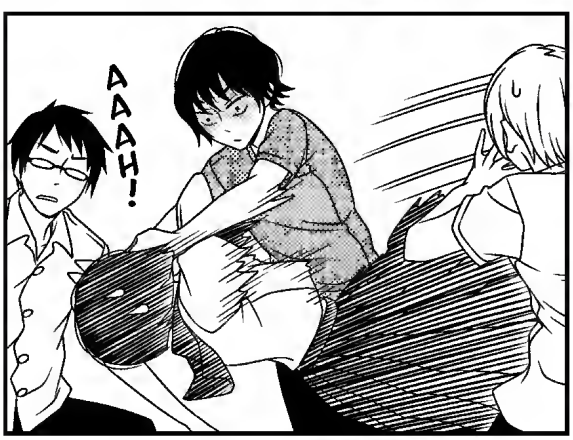
SEE YA!
BUT ...!

WHY DOES THIS HAVE TO HAPPEN DURING OUR LAST SCHOOL FESTIVAL?
WELL, WE CAN PLAY A LARGER VARIETY OF SONGS WITH HER IN THE GROUP.



OH!
WE ONLY NEED ONE GUITAR-IST FOR RHCP...
...SO YOU CAN SIT OUT IF YOU WANT, UBUKATA-SAN.

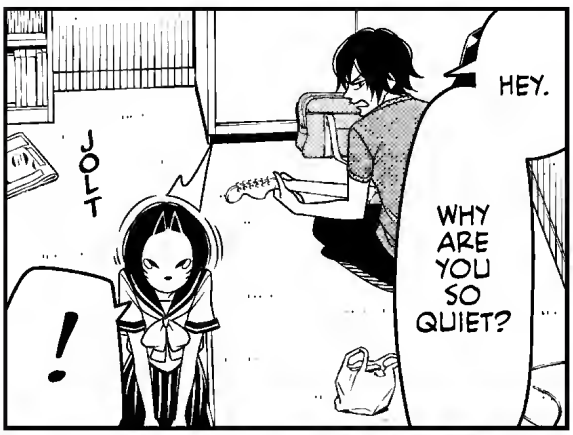
...
...

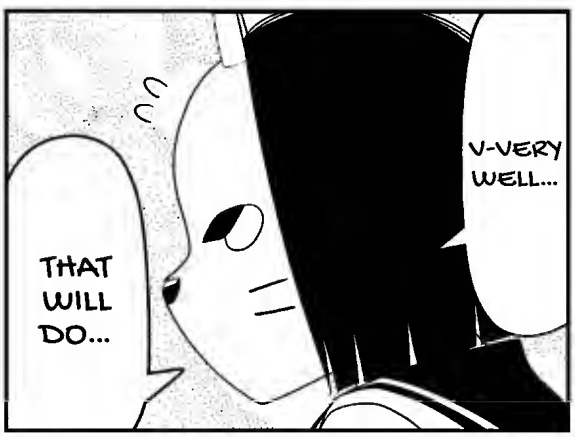

AAAH!

WHAT?
YOU DON'T WANNA TALK TO ME OR SOME-THIN'?
N-NO!
I JUST DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO TALK ABOUT.

THE HELL?
WHY'D SHE SHUT UP ALL OF A SUDDEN?
SHE USUAL-LY WON'T STOP PES-TERING ME.

FINE. THEN ABOUT THE FESTIVAL ...
RHCP'S NO GOOD. IF WE'RE GONNA PLAY, LET'S DO JAPANESE MUSIC.
NO ONE'LL PROBABLY KNOW ANYTHING, THOUGH.
AND WE'LL DO SONGS FROM BANDS WITH TWO GUITARISTS.


HEY.
WHY ARE YOU SO QUIET?
JOLT
!


V-VERY WELL...
THAT WILL DO...

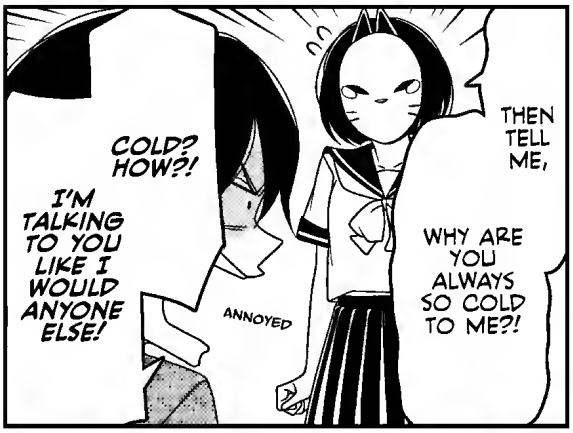
NO...
NO REA-SON...

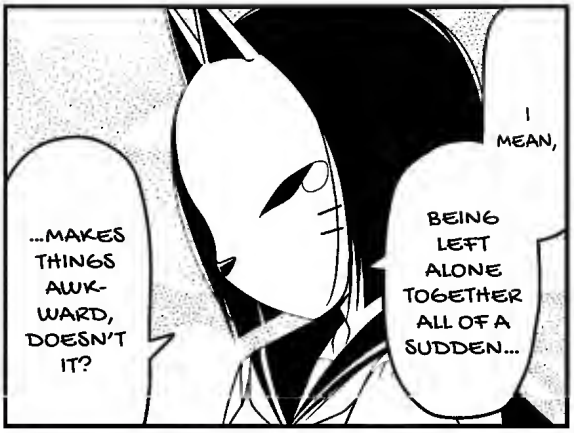
THAT WILL DO?

NO REA-SON?

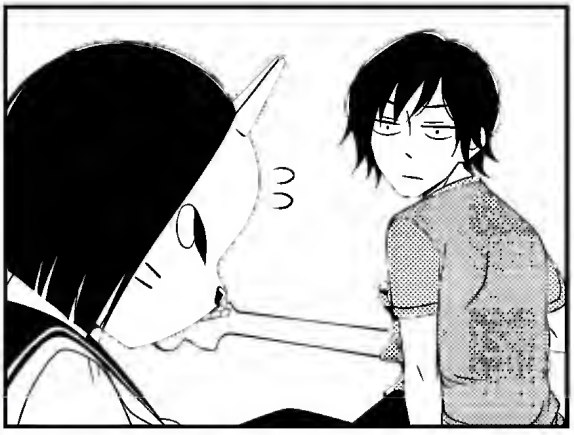
HUH?
WHO GIVES A SHIT ABOUT THAT?
THINK ABOUT IT!
WE WERE JUST BICKERING, WEREN'T WE?!

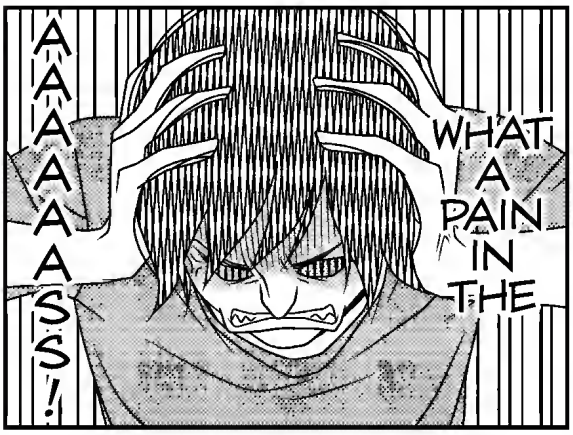
WHY ARE YOU BEING SO VAGUE?
DO YOU HATE BEING ALONE WITH ME THAT MUCH?
I...I DON'T...
WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM, THEN?


COLD? HOW?!
I'M TALKING TO YOU LIKE I WOULD ANYONE ELSE!
ANNOYED
THEN TELL ME,
WHY ARE YOU ALWAYS SO COLD TO ME?!

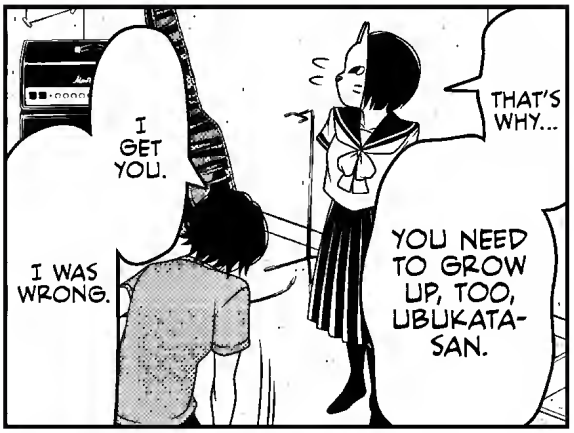

I MEAN,
BEING LEFT ALONE TOGETHER ALL OF A SUDDEN...
...MAKES THINGS AWKWARD, DOESN'T IT?

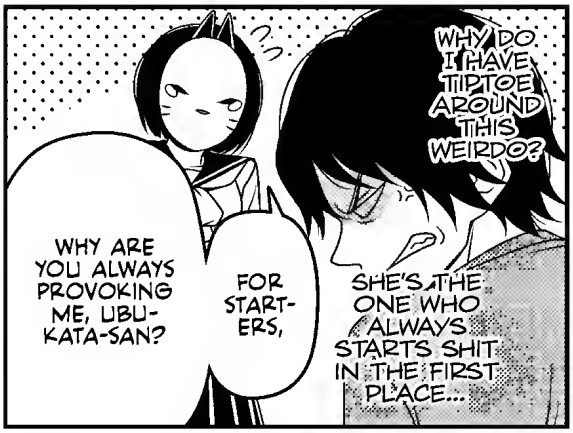
I-IN THAT CASE ...
...YOU SHOULD HAVE SAID SO.

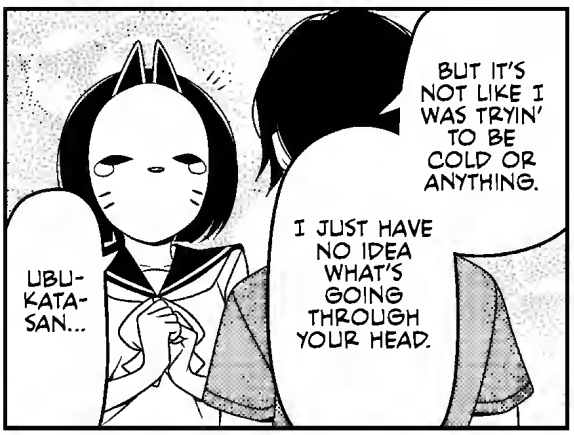


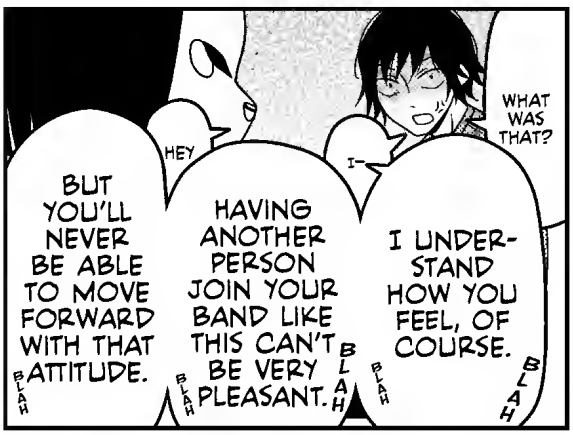

A-A-A-A-A-A-A-A-S-S-!
WHAT A PAIN IN THE

PISSED
HOW SO?

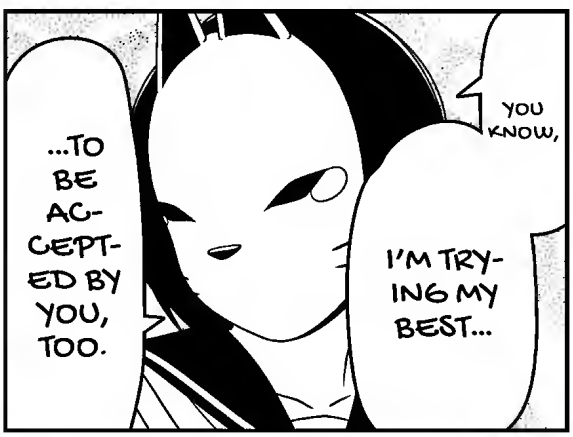

THAT'S WHY...
YOU NEED TO GROW UP, TOO, UBUKATA-SAN.
I GET YOU.
I WAS WRONG.


WHY DO I HAVE TIPTOE AROUND THIS WEIRDO?
SHE'S THE ONE WHO ALWAYS STARTS SHIT IN THE FIRST PLACE...
FOR START-ERS,
WHY ARE YOU ALWAYS PROVOKING ME, UBU-KATA-SAN?


BUT IT'S NOT LIKE I WAS TRYIN' TO BE COLD OR ANYTHING.
I JUST HAVE NO IDEA WHAT'S GOING THROUGH YOUR HEAD.
UBU-KATA-SAN...

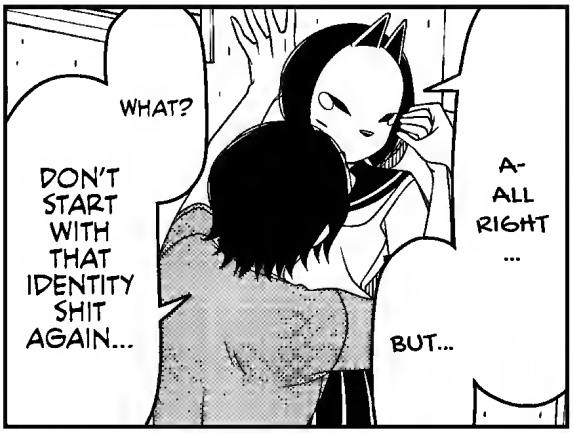

WHAT WAS THAT?
I-
HEY
I UNDER-STAND HOW YOU FEEL, OF COURSE.
HAVING ANOTHER PERSON JOIN YOUR BAND LIKE THIS CAN'T BE VERY PLEASANT.
BUT YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THAT ATTITUDE.
BLAH
BLAH
BLAH
BLAH
BLAH

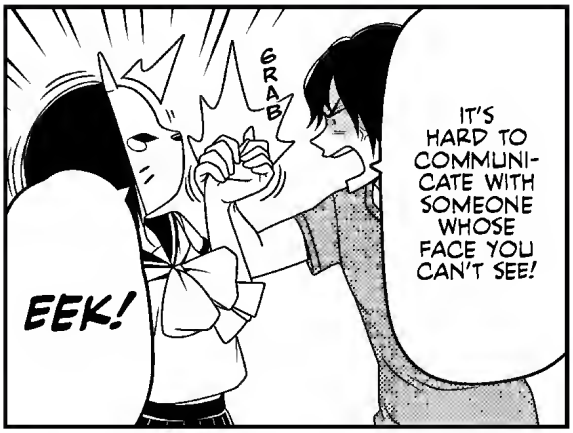
SO SHOW ME YOUR FACE ALREADY.
OFF WITH THE MASK.

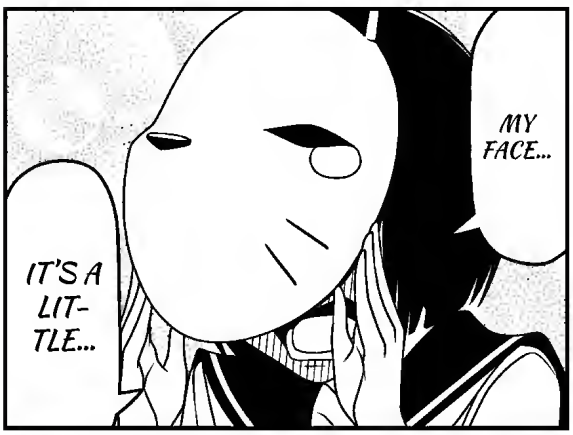

YOU KNOW,
I'M TRY-ING MY BEST...
...TO BE AC-CEPT-ED BY YOU, TOO.

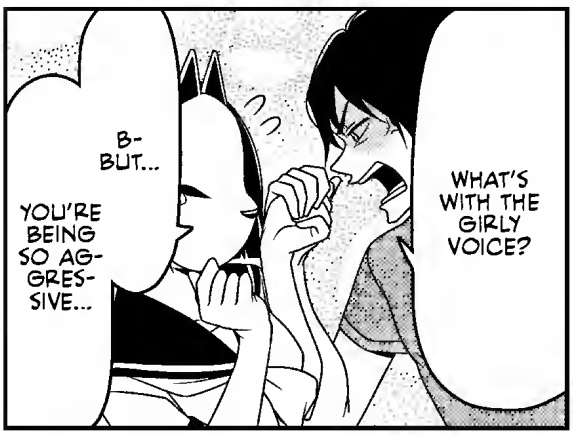
WHAT?!
BADUM

SNAP


WHAT?
DON'T START WITH THAT IDENTITY SHIT AGAIN...
A- ALL RIGHT ...
BUT...

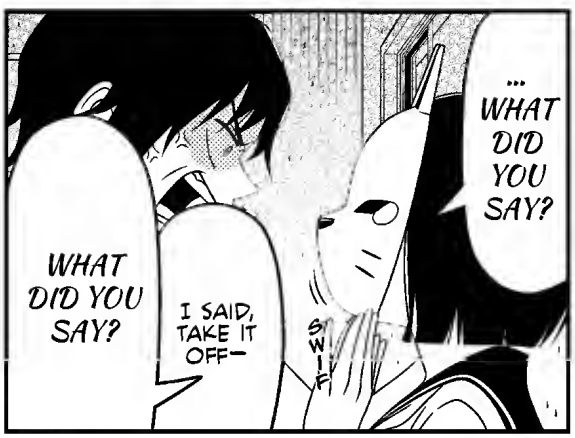

GRAB
EEK!
IT'S HARD TO COMMUNI-CATE WITH SOMEONE WHOSE FACE YOU CAN'T SEE!


MY FACE...
IT'S A LIT-TLE...

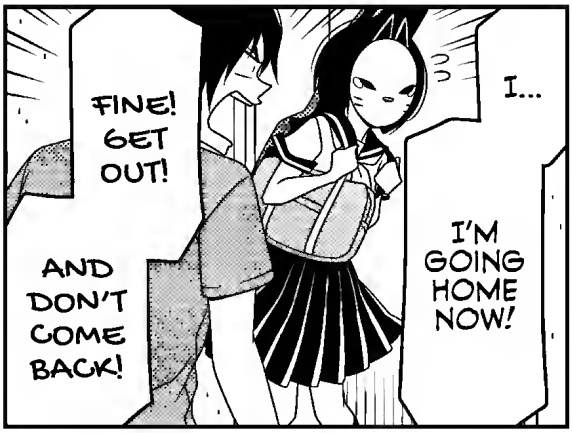

B- BUT...
YOU'RE BEING SO AG-GRES-SIVE...
WHAT'S WITH THE GIRLY VOICE?

STOP TRYIN' TO FRONT.
FREAK!

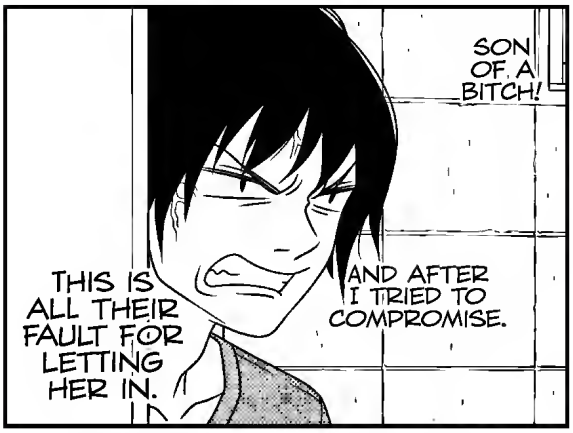
THEN I'LL BE REAL GEN-TLE,
SO TAKE IT OFF AL-READY!
B- BUT...

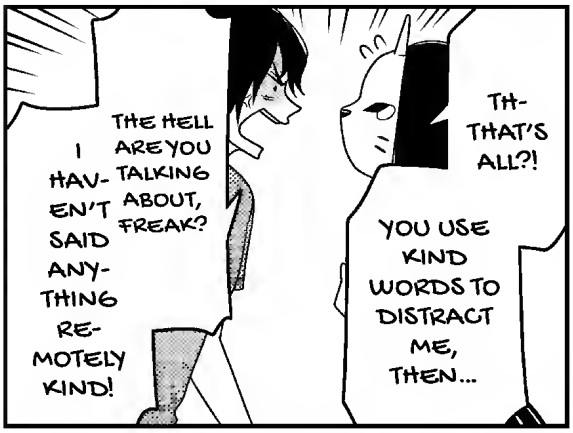

... WHAT DID YOU SAY?
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
I SAID, TAKE IT OFF—
SWIP

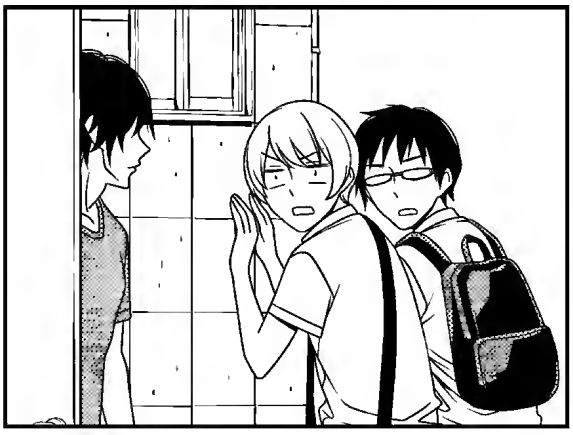
SHUT UP!
BADUM

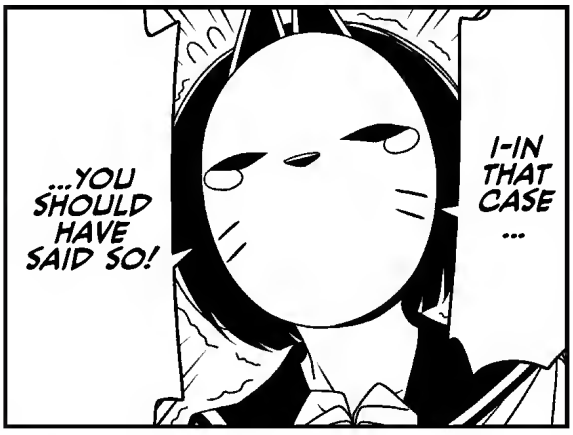

I...
I'M GOING HOME NOW!
FINE! GET OUT!
AND DON'T COME BACK!

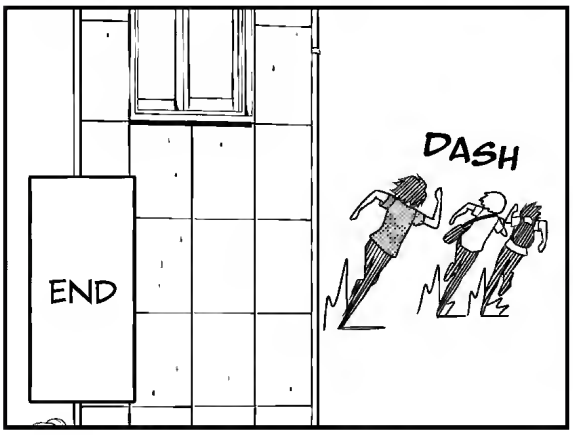
AND HERE I THOUGHT WE REACHED AN UNDER-STAND-ING...
I'M TELL-ING YOU TO TAKE OFF THE GOD-DAMN MASK!
WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT?!


SON OF A BITCH!
AND AFTER I TRIED TO COMPROMISE.
THIS IS ALL THEIR FAULT FOR LETTING HER IN.

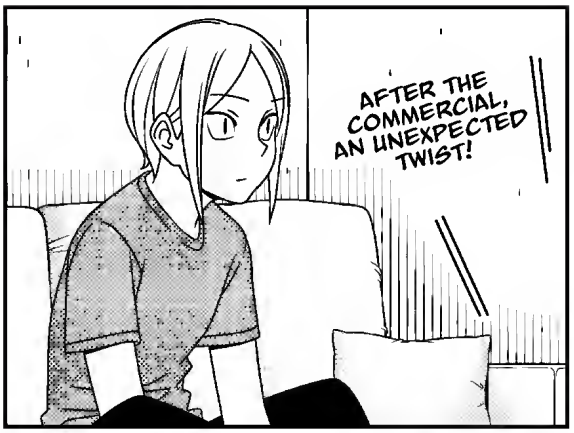

TH-THAT'S ALL?!
YOU USE KIND WORDS TO DISTRACT ME, THEN...
I HAV-EN'T SAID ANY-THING RE-MOTELY KIND!
THE HELL ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, FREAK?

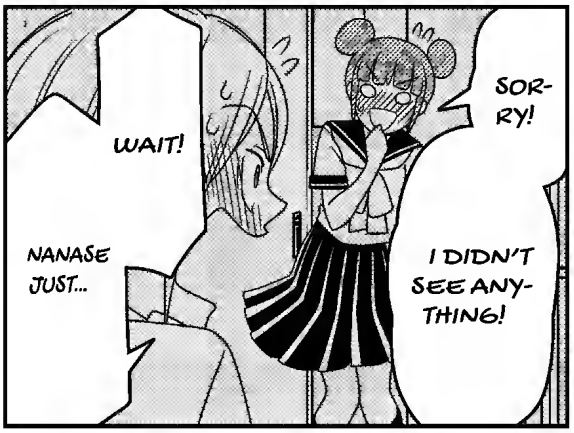


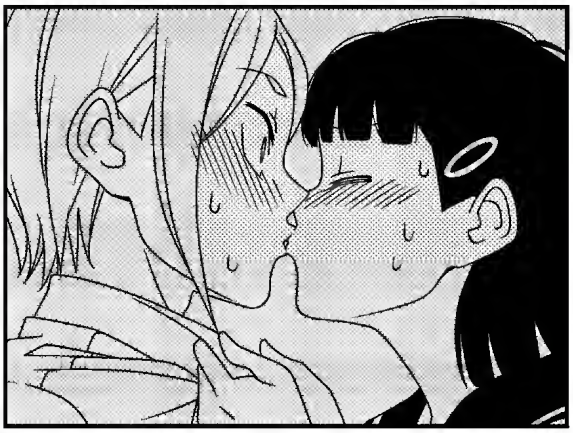

I-IN THAT CASE ...
...YOU SHOULD HAVE SAID SO!

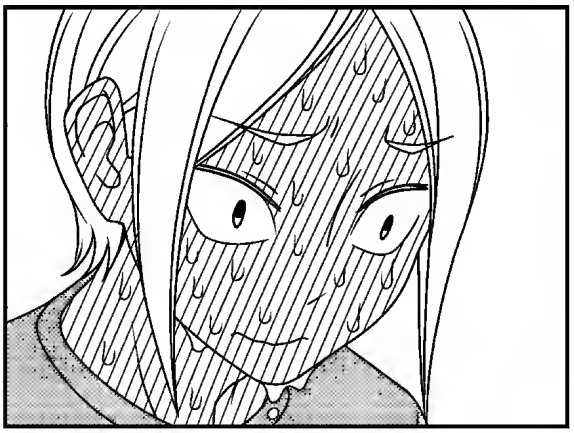

END
DASH

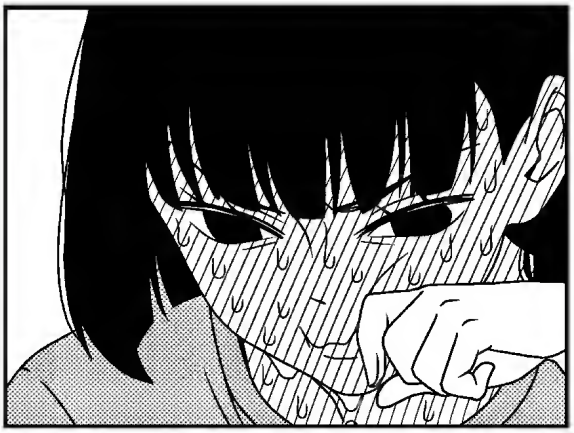
WHAT A PAIN IN THE
A-AAAAAS.S!!


AFTER THE COMMERCIAL, AN UNEXPECTED TWIST!

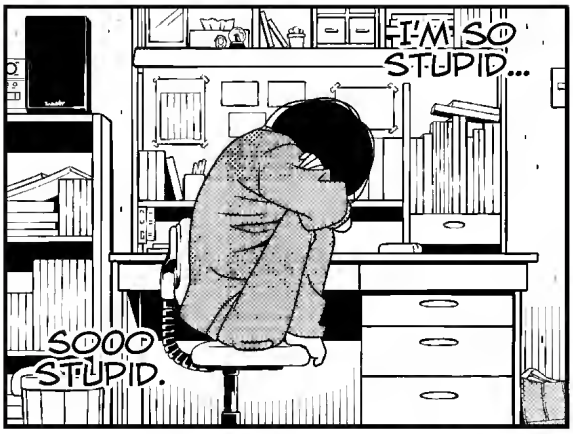

WAIT!
NANASE JUST...
SOR-RY!
I DIDN'T SEE ANY-THING!



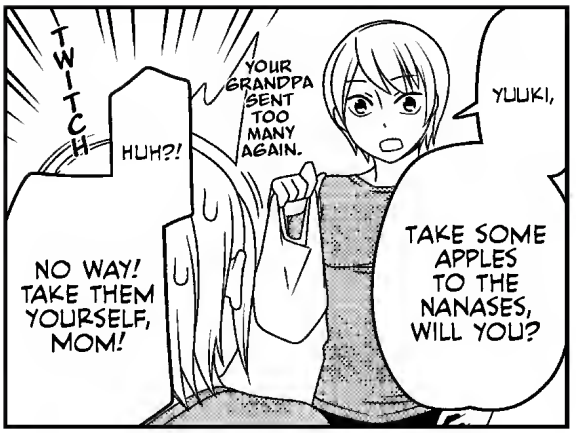


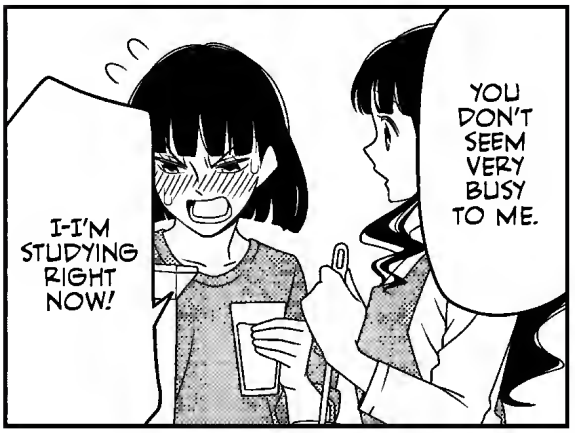


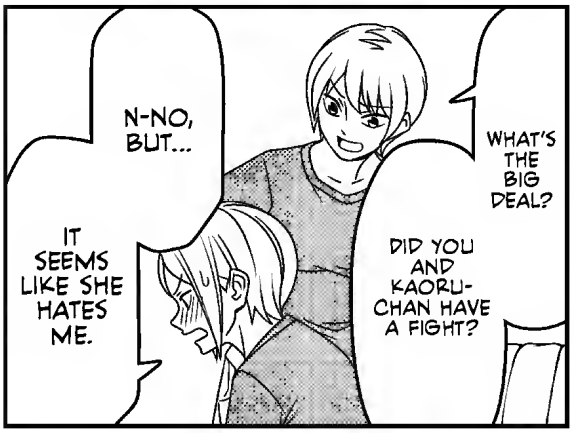
THIS SUCKS...
THIS REEEALLY SUCKS.

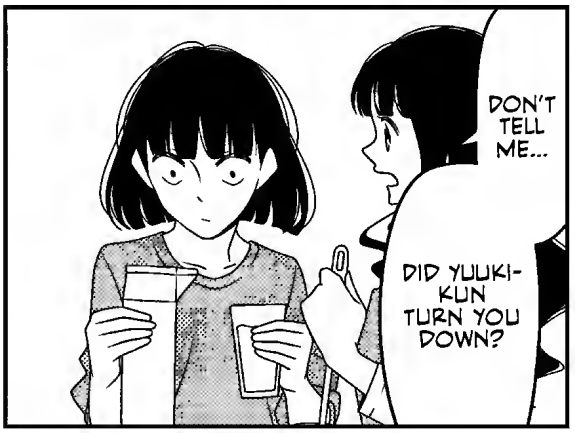

I'M SO STUPID...
SOOO STUPID.

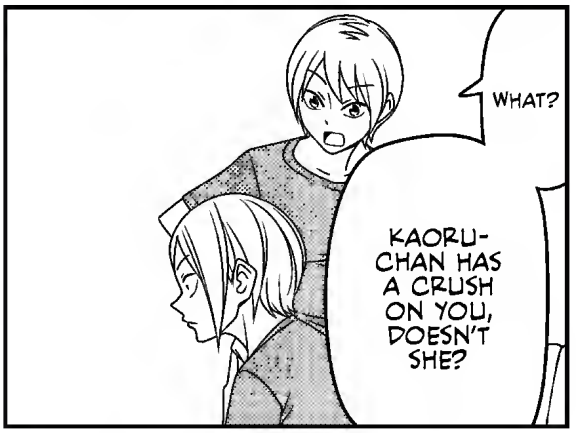
DING DONG
KAORU-CHAN!
ANSWER THE DOOR, WILL YOU? IT'S YUUKI-KUN.
JOLT
WHAT?! YOU ANSWER IT! I'M BUSY!

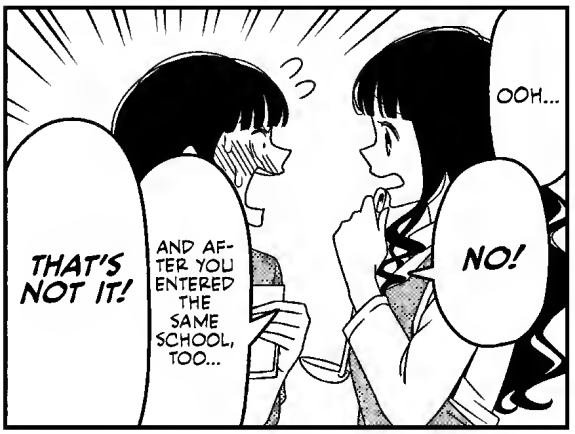

YUUKI,
TAKE SOME APPLES TO THE NANASES, WILL YOU?
YOUR GRANDPA SENT TOO MANY AGAIN.
TWITCH
HUH?!
NO WAY! TAKE THEM YOURSELF, MOM!

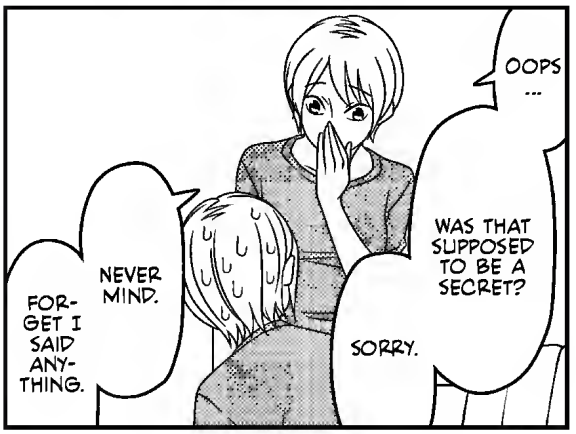

YOU DON'T SEEM VERY BUSY TO ME.
I-I'M STUDYING RIGHT NOW!

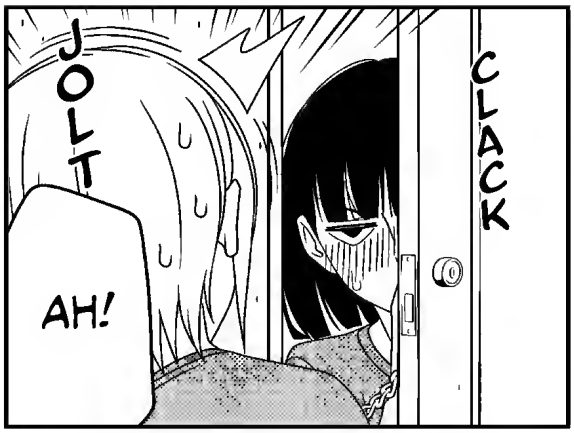

WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?
DID YOU AND KAORU-CHAN HAVE A FIGHT?
N-NO, BUT...
IT SEEMS LIKE SHE HATES ME.

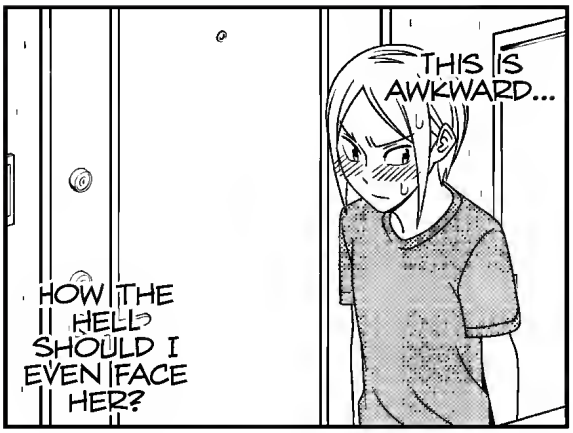

DON'T TELL ME...
DID YUUKI-KUN TURN YOU DOWN?

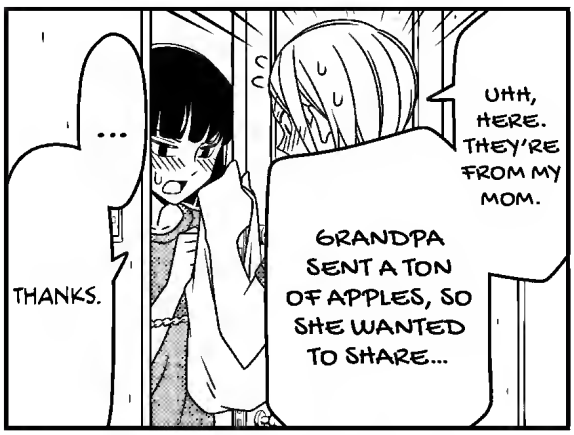

WHAT?
KAORU-CHAN HAS A CRUSH ON YOU, DOESN'T SHE?

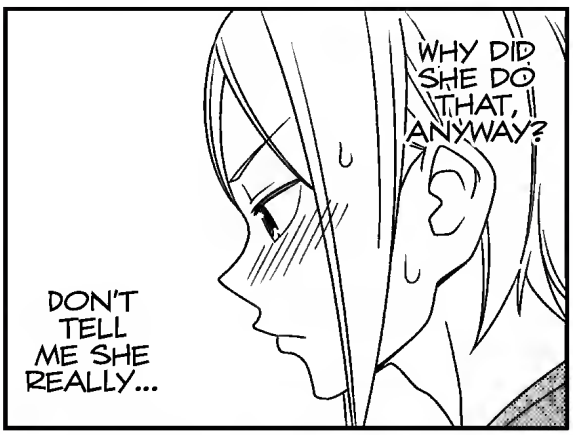

OOH...
NO!
AND AFTER YOU ENTERED THE SAME SCHOOL, TOO...
THAT'S NOT IT!

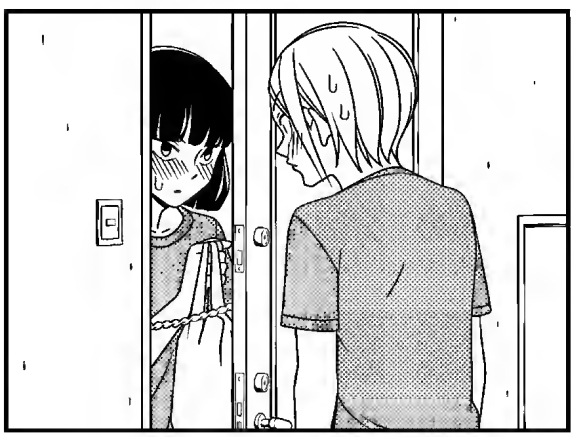

OOPS...
WAS THAT SUPPOSED TO BE A SECRET?
SORRY.
NEVER MIND.
FORGET I SAID ANYTHING.

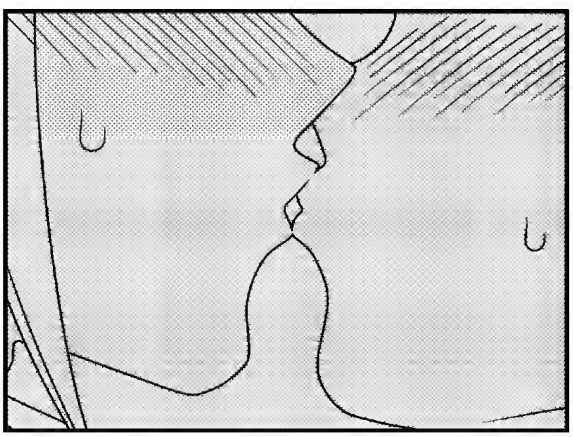

CLACK
JOLT
AH!

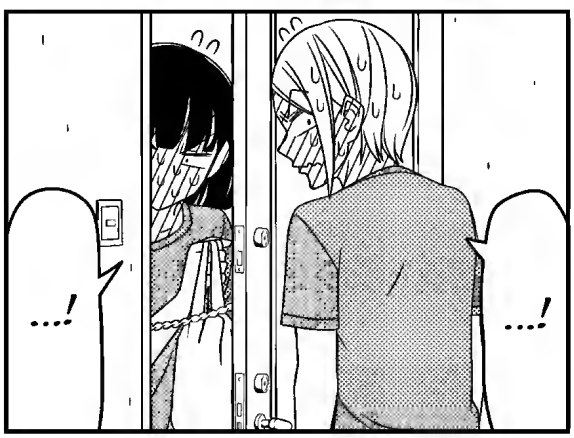

THIS IS AWKWARD...
HOW THE HELL SHOULD I EVEN FACE HER?

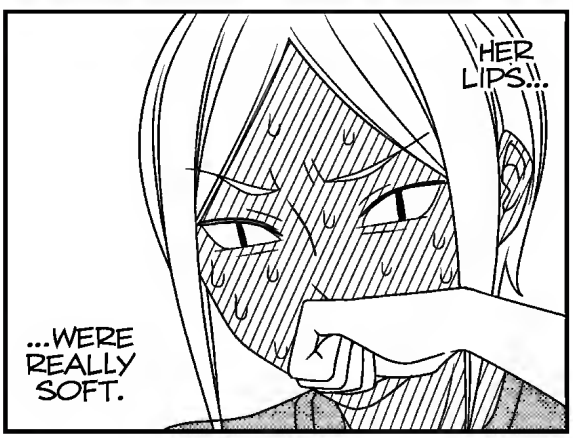

UHH, HERE. THEY'RE FROM MY MOM.
GRANDPA SENT A TON OF APPLES, SO SHE WANTED TO SHARE...
...
THANKS.

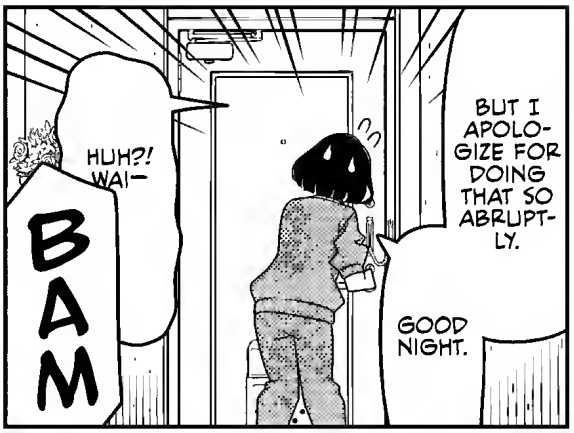

WHY DID SHE DO THAT, ANYWAY?
DON'T TELL ME SHE REALLY...

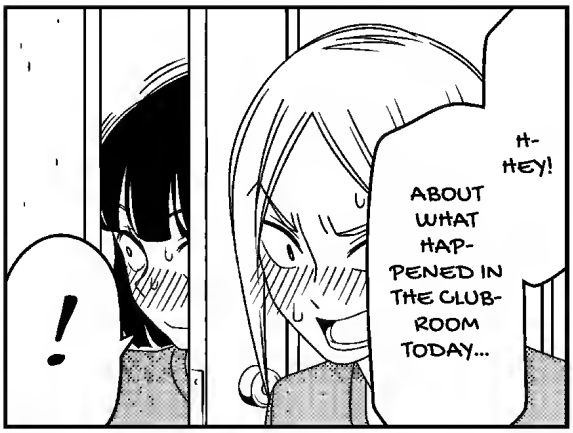




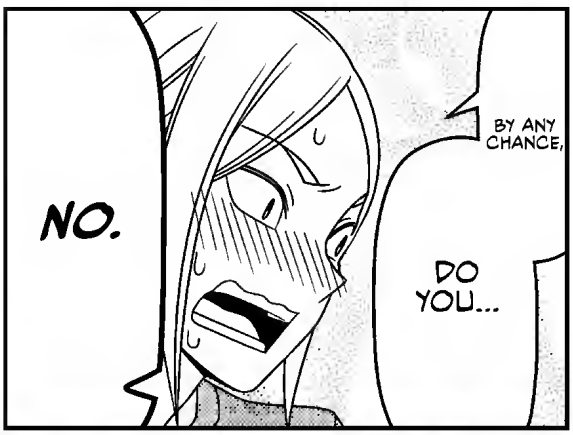

...!
...!

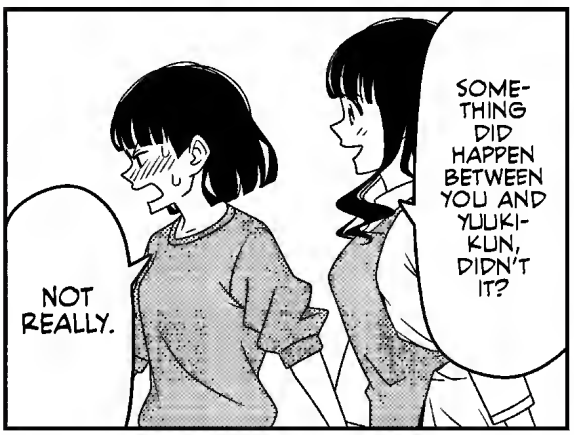

HER LIPS...
...WERE REALLY SOFT.


BAM
HUH?! WAI—
BUT I APOLOGIZE FOR DOING THAT SO ABRUPTLY.
GOOD NIGHT.

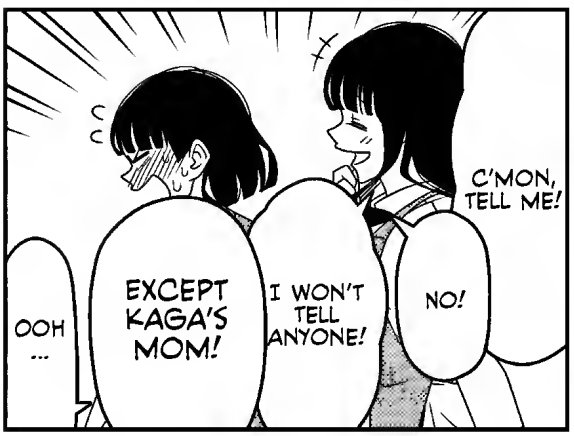

!
H-HEY! ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED IN THE CLUBROOM TODAY...

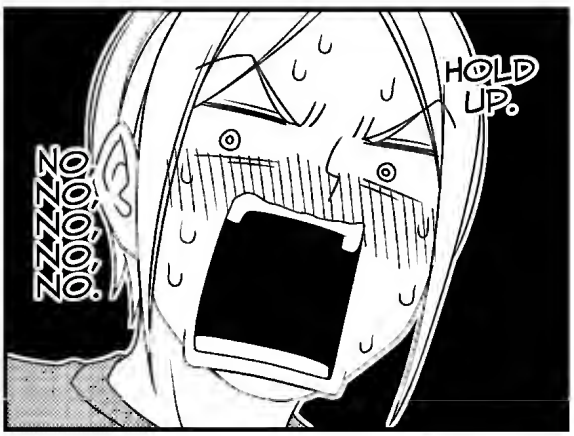
BA-DUM
!
OOH, HOW SCARY!

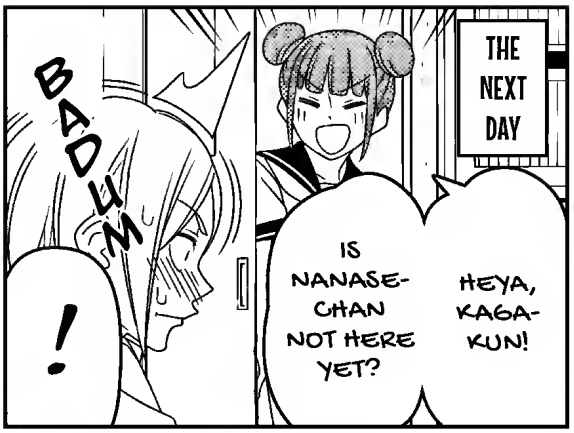

NO.
BY ANY CHANCE, DO YOU...


NOT REALLY.
SOMETHING DID HAPPEN BETWEEN YOU AND YUUKI-KUN, DIDN'T IT?

...ANYTHING BY IT.
I DIDN'T MEAN ...


OOH ...
EXCEPT KAGA'S MOM!
I WON'T TELL ANYONE!
NO!
C'MON, TELL ME!

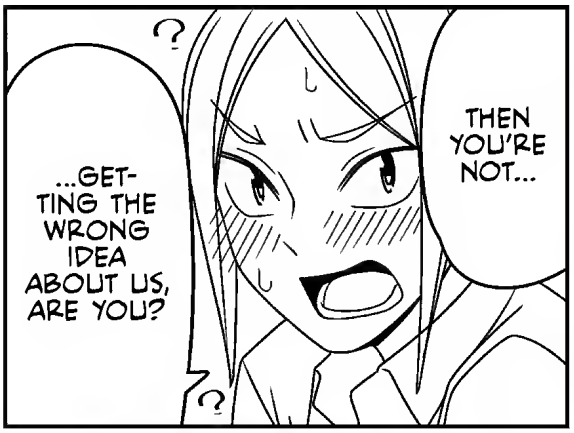

NOOOOOOZZZZ
HOLD UP.


THE NEXT DAY
HEYA, KAGA-KUN!
IS NANASE-CHAN NOT HERE YET?
BADUM
!

I CAUGHT MY CLUB JUNIORS KISSING.

S-SASA-HARA-SEM-PAI! ABOUT YESTER-DAY...
DON'T WOR-RY, I KNOW. IT WAS JUST AN ACCI-DENT, RIGHT?!

...AND THAT'S WHAT HAP-PENED.
AS THE CLUB PRESI-DENT, DO YOU THINK I SHOULD CHEER THEM ON?

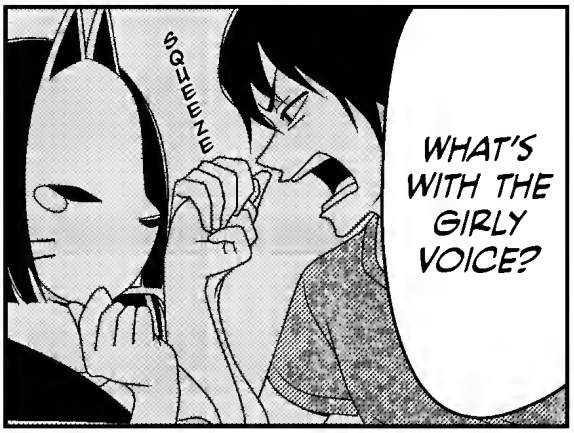

THEN YOU'RE NOT...
...GET-TING THE WRONG IDEA ABOUT US, ARE YOU?

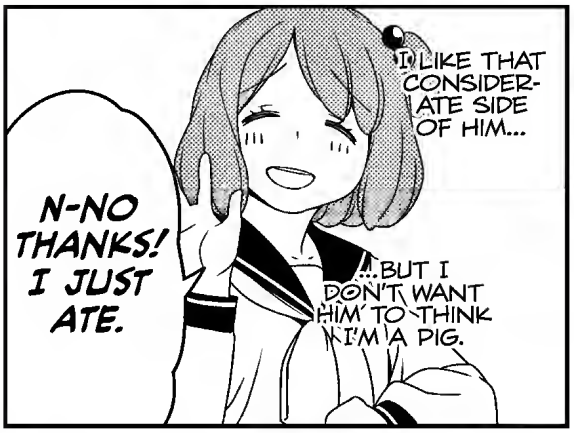
LEAVE THEM ALONE.

NOPE!
TA-DA
LEAVE IT TO ME!

OKAY!
I'LL DO MY BEST!

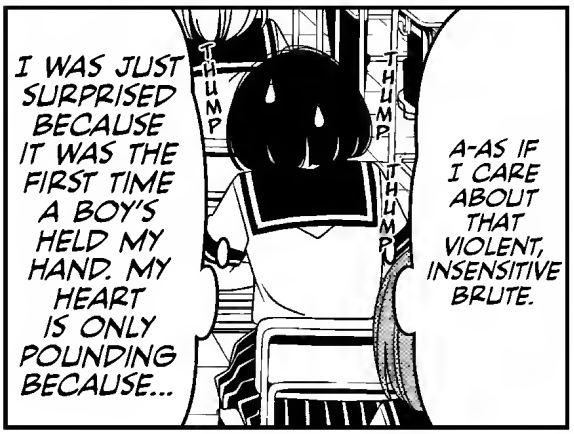
SONOBE-KUN OFTEN GIVES ME SNACKS.
WOULD YOU LIKE TO EAT HALF?

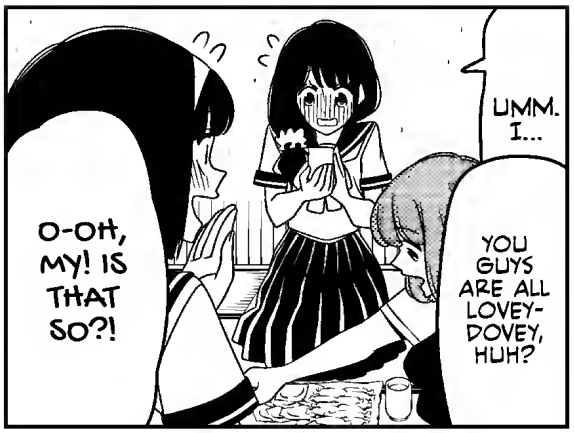

SQUEEZE
WHAT'S WITH THE GIRLY VOICE?


I LIKE THAT CONSIDERATE SIDE OF HIM...
N-NO THANKS! I JUST ATE.
...BUT I DON'T WANT HIM TO THINK I'M A PIG.

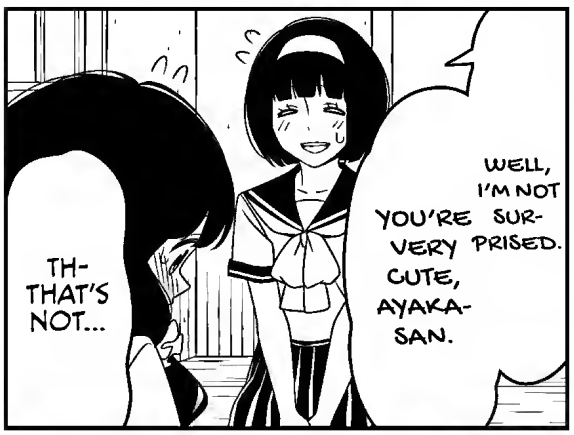
BADUM
!
GASP
RUB
RUB

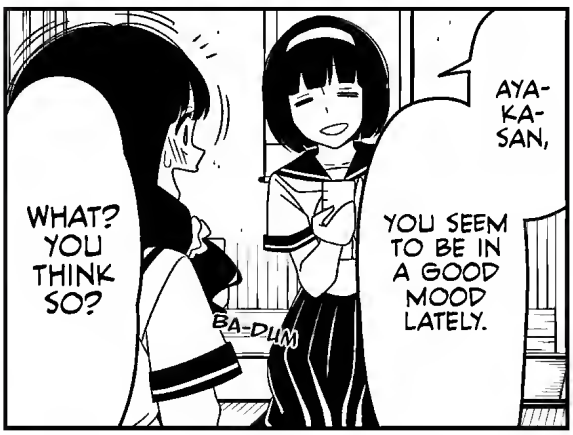
RRRRRRUMBLE


I WAS JUST SURPRISED BECAUSE IT WAS THE FIRST TIME A BOY'S HELD MY HAND. MY HEART IS ONLY POUNDING BECAUSE...
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
A-AS IF I CARE ABOUT THAT VIOLENT, INSENSITIVE BRUTE.

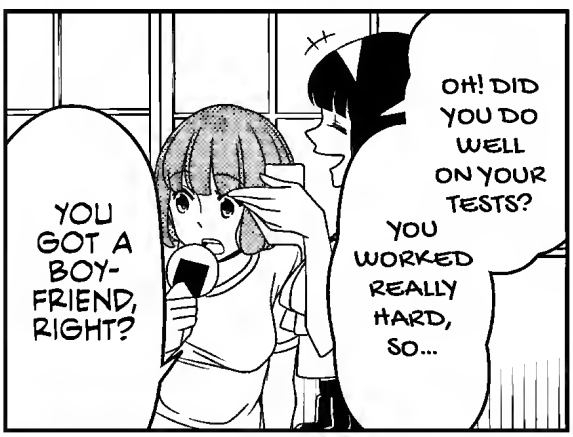

UMM. I...
YOU GUYS ARE ALL LOVEY-DOVEY, HUH?
O-OH, MY! IS THAT SO?!

SMILE
SMILE

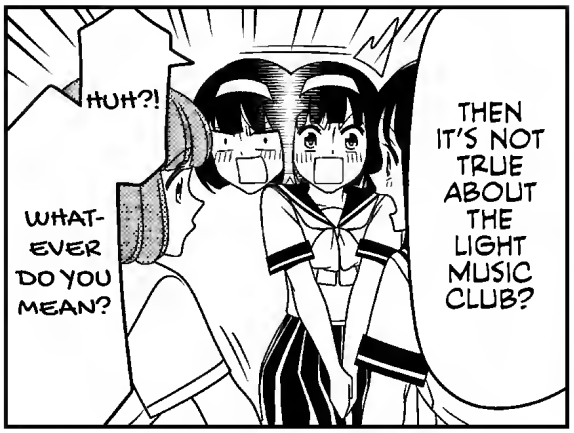

WELL, I'M NOT VERY SURE. YOU'RE CUTE, AYAKA-SAN.
TH-THAT'S NOT...


AYA-KA-SAN,
YOU SEEM TO BE IN A GOOD MOOD LATELY.
BA-DUM
WHAT? YOU THINK SO?

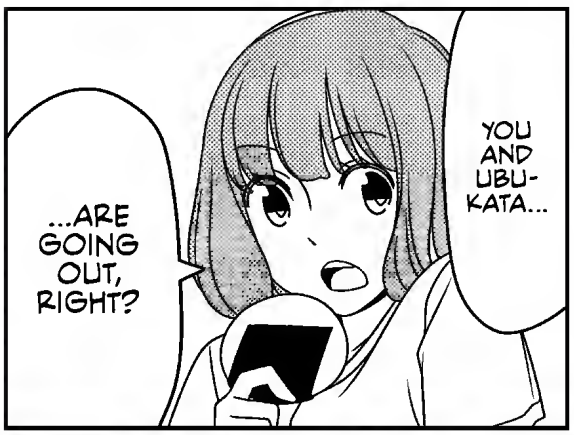
STOP TRYIN' TO FRONT.
FREAK!

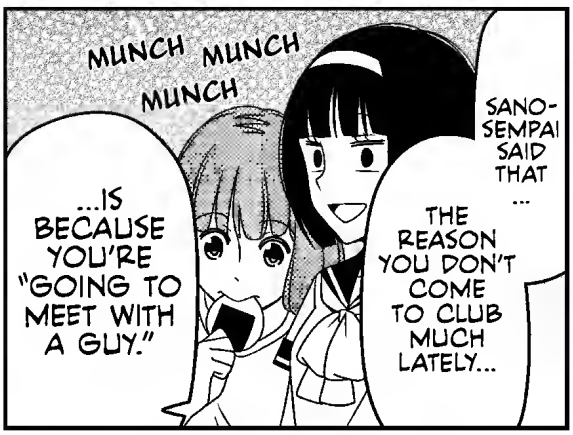

OH! DID YOU DO WELL ON YOUR TESTS?
YOU WORKED REALLY HARD, SO...
YOU GOT A BOY-FRIEND, RIGHT?

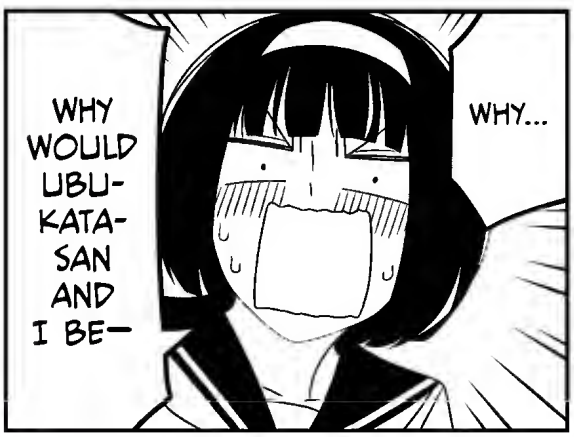
WHY AM I REMEMBERING THAT NOW? IT'S NOT LIKE I...
SHAKE
SHAKE
...SEM-PAI?


HUH?!
WHAT-EVER DO YOU MEAN?
THEN IT'S NOT TRUE ABOUT THE LIGHT MUSIC CLUB?

OH, BUT...
YOU'RE DATING SOMEONE, TOO, AREN'T YOU, SHIBASAKI-SEMPAI?
TWITCH
WHAT?!

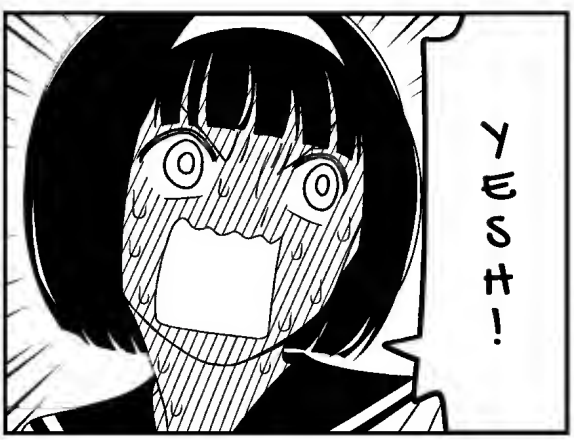

YOU AND UBU-KATA...
...ARE GOING OUT, RIGHT?


MUNCH MUNCH MUNCH
SANO-SEMPAI SAID THAT ...
THE REASON YOU DON'T COME TO CLUB MUCH LATELY...
...IS BECAUSE YOU'RE "GOING TO MEET WITH A GUY."

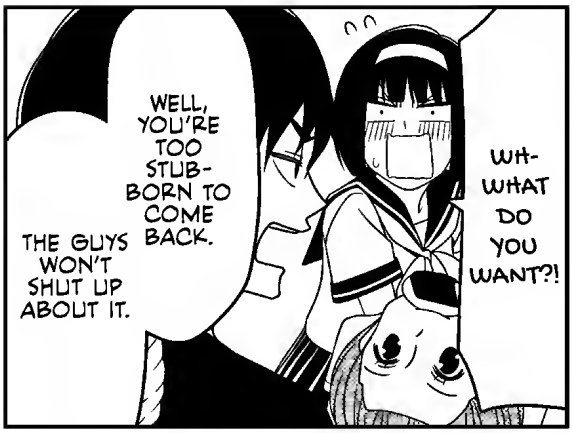

WHY...
WHY WOULD UBU-KATA-SAN AND I BE—

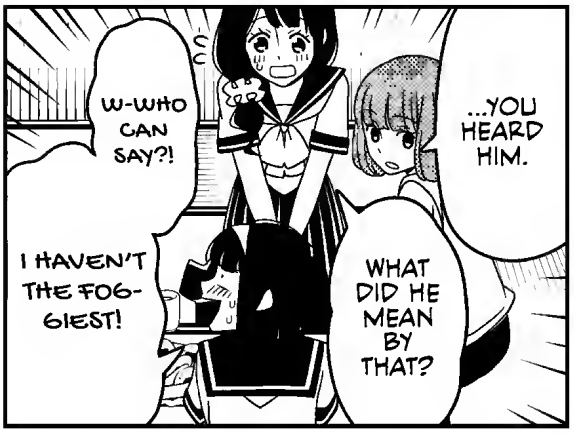
K-KYOKO-SAN?!
AM I WRONG?

HUH?
SLIDE
WHAT ABOUT ME?

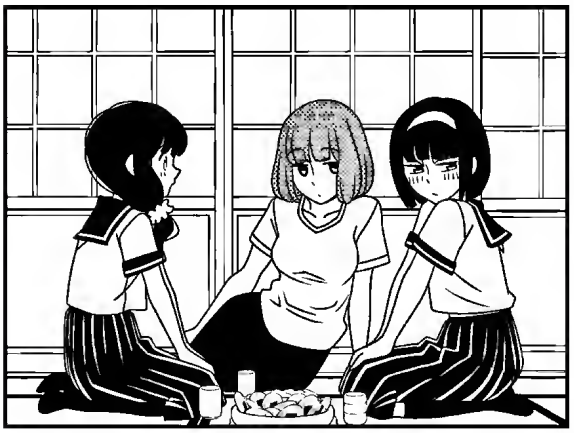

YESH!

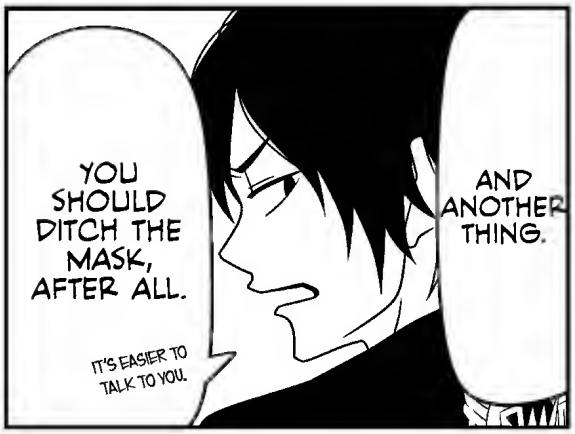
WE'LL BE WAITING.
YOU BETTER COME, OKAY? LATER.

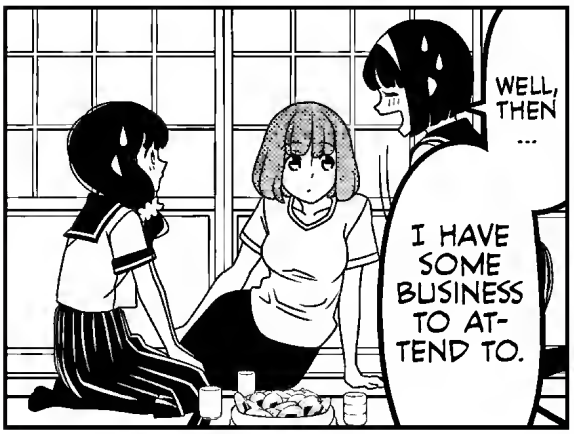

WH-WHAT DO YOU WANT?!
WELL, YOU'RE TOO STUB-BORN TO COME BACK.
THE GUYS WON'T SHUT UP ABOUT IT.


W-WHO CAN SAY?!
I HAVEN'T THE FOG-GIEST!
...YOU HEARD HIM.
WHAT DID HE MEAN BY THAT?

...
WHATEV-ER, JUST COME ALREADY.
WH-WHAT-EVER DO YOU I HAVE NO MEAN? IDEA WHAT YOU...




YOU SHOULD DITCH THE MASK, AFTER ALL.
IT'S EASIER TO TALK TO YOU.
AND ANOTHER THING.

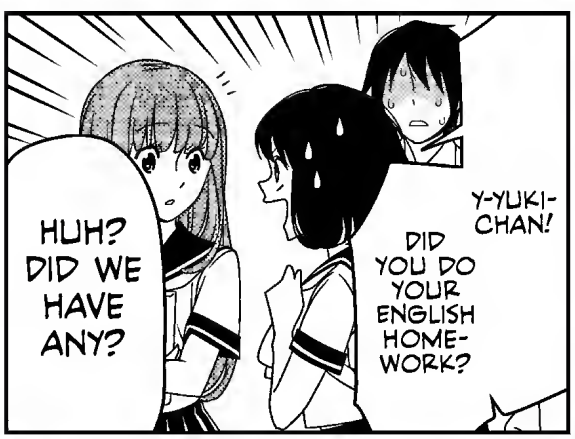

WELL, THEN ...
I HAVE SOME BUSINESS TO AT-TEND TO.

WHAT?!
BADUM

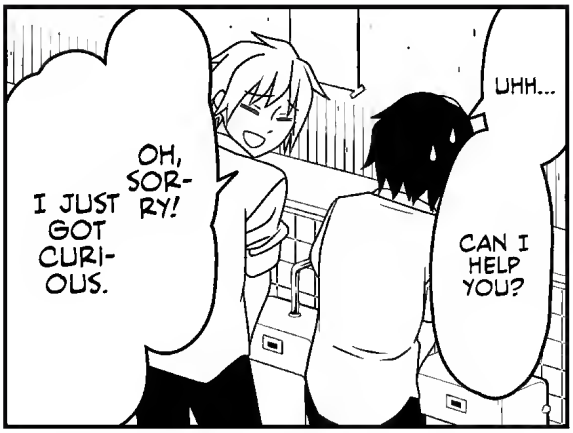
# Advice

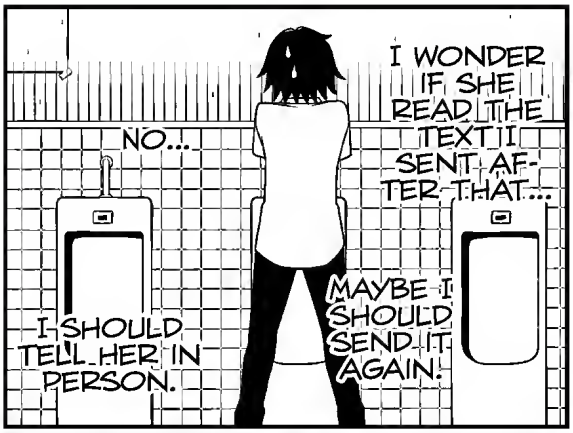
THINGS HAVE GOTTEN AWKWARD BETWEEN US SINCE THAT LITTLE TEXT MIX-UP.

K-KANDA!
GULP
!


Y-YUKI-CHAN!
DID YOU DO YOUR ENGLISH HOMEWORK?
HUH? DID WE HAVE ANY?

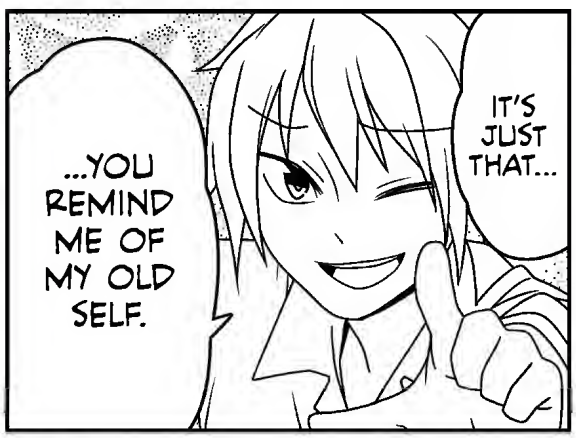
THIS IS BAD.
THIS IS REALLY BAD.


UHH...
CAN I HELP YOU?
OH, SORRY!
I JUST GOT CURIOUS.


I WONDER IF SHE READ THE TEXT I SENT AFTER THAT...
NO...
I SHOULD TELL HER IN PERSON.
MAYBE I SHOULD SEND IT AGAIN.

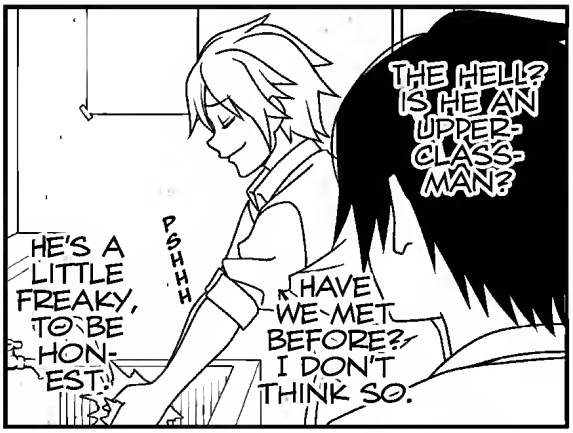
HMM.
I'M STUPID, SO I'M NOT SURE HOW TO PUT IT.
CURIOUS?
ABOUT WHAT?

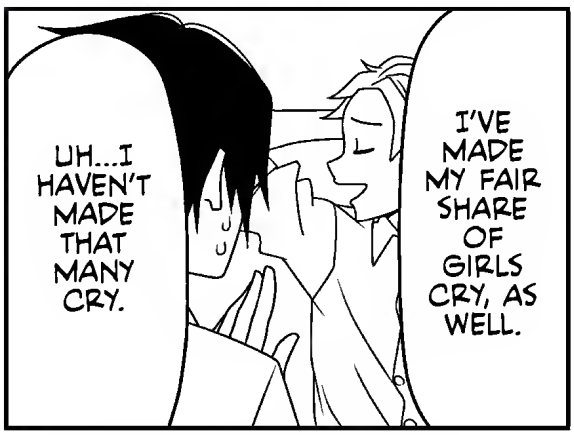
BUT SHE WON'T EVEN LISTEN TO ME.
WHAT SHOULD I DO?

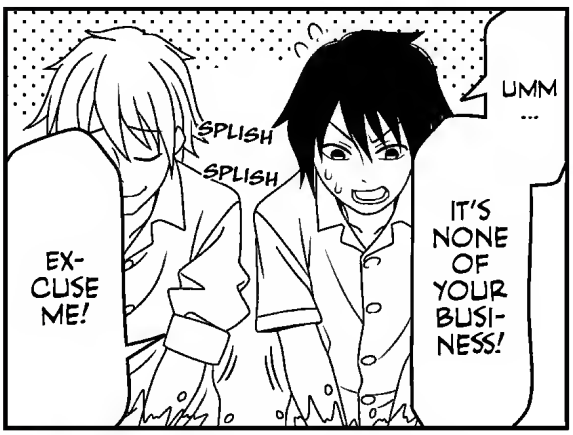

...YOU REMIND ME OF MY OLD SELF.
IT'S JUST THAT...

...HUH?

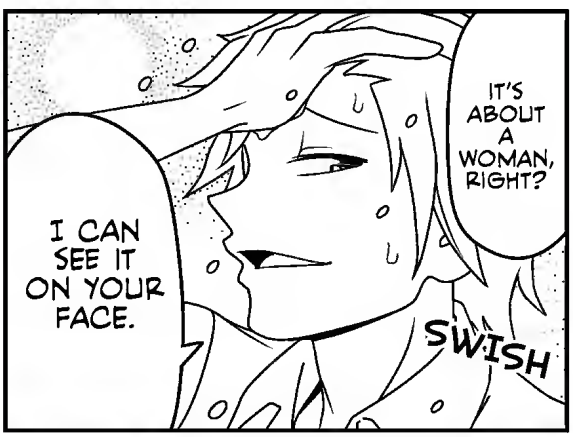
I SAID SO, DIDN'T I?
HUH? HOW DID YOU...?
YOU AND I ARE ALIKE.


THE HELL? IS HE AN UPPER-CLASS-MAN?
PSHHH
HE'S A LITTLE FREAKY, TO BE HON-EST.
HAVE WE MET BEFORE? I DON'T THINK SO.


I'VE MADE MY FAIR SHARE OF GIRLS CRY, AS WELL.
UH...I HAVEN'T MADE THAT MANY CRY.

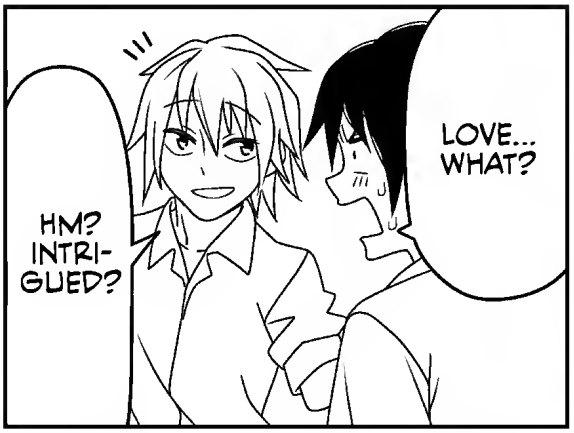

UMM ...
SPLISH
SPLISH
IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSI-NESS!
EX-CUSE ME!

BUT YOU MADE HER CRY, DIDN'T YOU?
THE GIRL YOU LEAST WANTED TO UPSET.

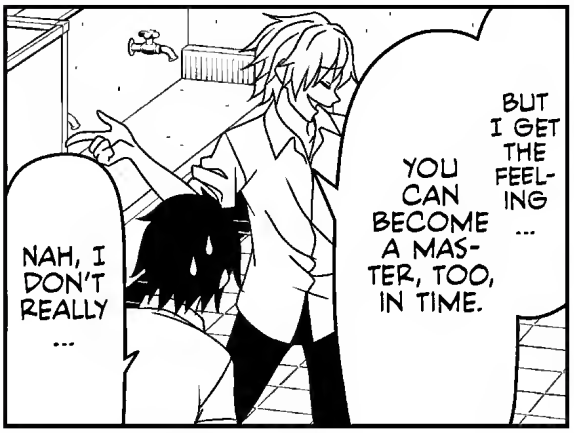

IT'S ABOUT A WOMAN, RIGHT?
I CAN SEE IT ON YOUR FACE.
SWISH

BADUM

!

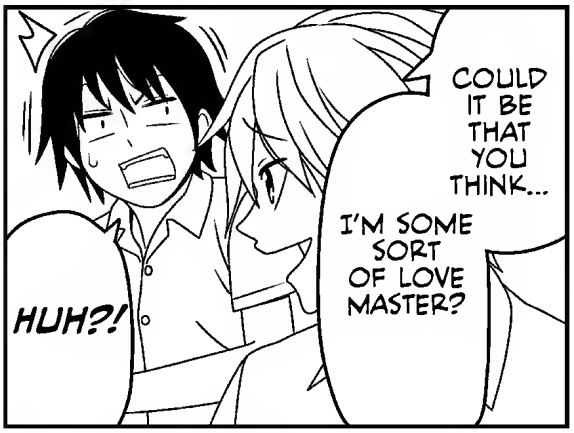

LOVE... WHAT?
HM? INTRIGUED?

HOW DOES HE KNOW ME SO WELL?
ARE WE REALLY THAT ALIKE?
IF I ASK HIM FOR ADVICE, THEN MAYBE...
DUN DUN

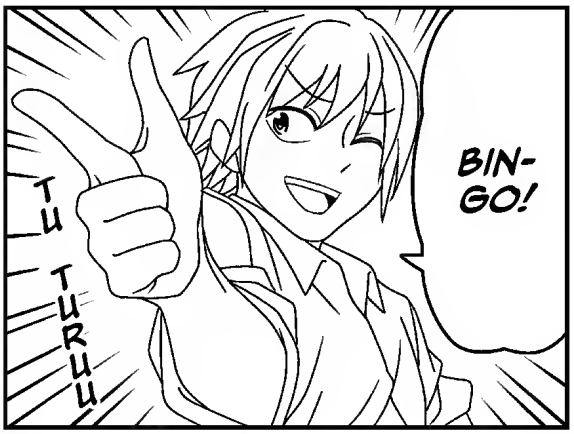

BUT I GET THE FEELING ...
YOU CAN BECOME A MASTER, TOO, IN TIME.
NAH, I DON'T REALLY ...

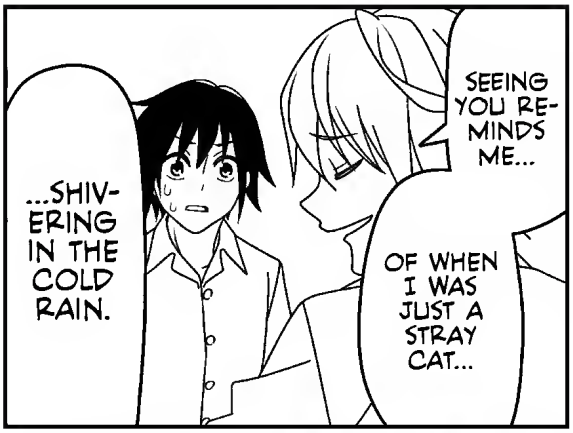
WAIT, WAIT, WAIT.
I CAN'T ASK SOMEONE I JUST MET FOR ADVICE.
BUT HE SEEMS LIKE HE HAS A LOT OF EXPERIENCE...

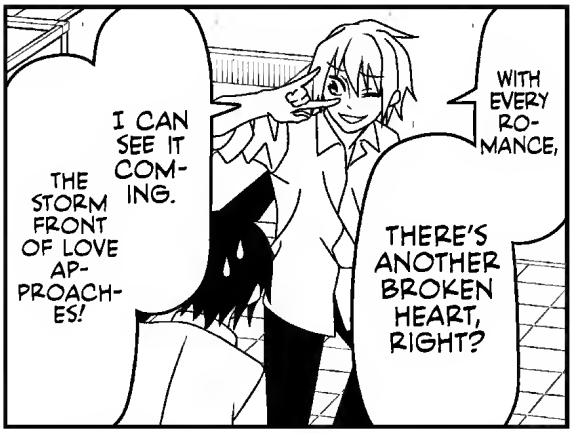
OR PERHAPS...
IT WOULD BE MORE ACCURATE TO SAY...
...YOU WILL BECOME ONE.

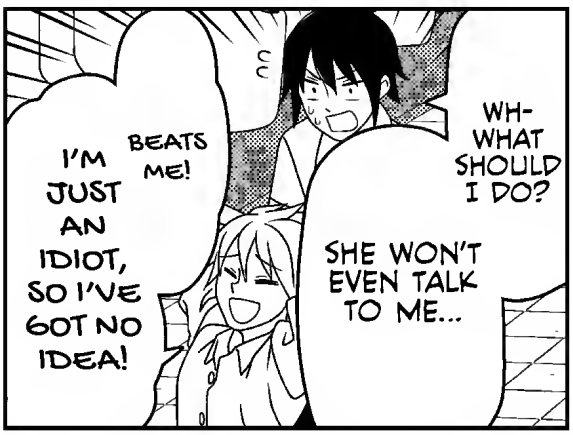

COULD IT BE THAT YOU THINK...
I'M SOME SORT OF LOVE MASTER?
HUH?!

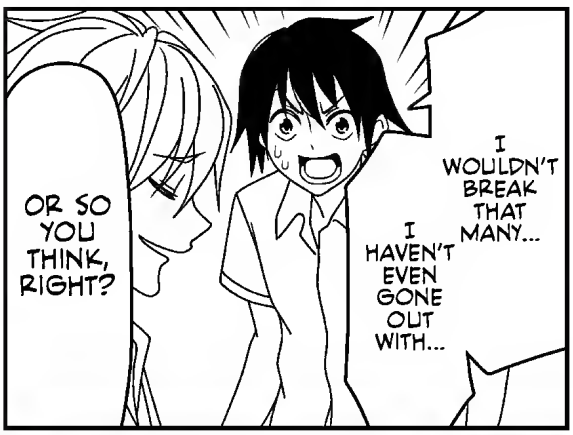
WHAT...?

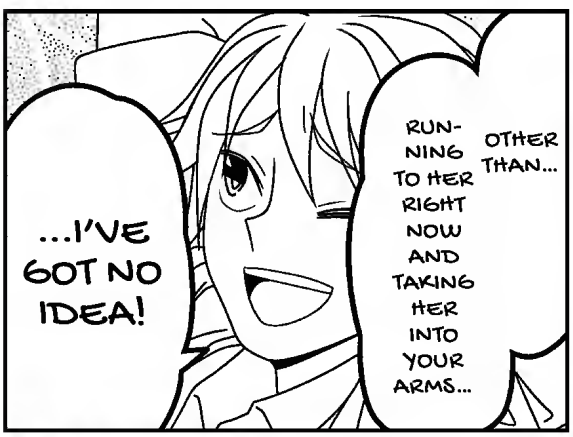

BINGO!
TU TURU


SEEING YOU REMINDS ME...
OF WHEN I WAS JUST A STRAY CAT...
...SHIVERING IN THE COLD RAIN.


WITH EVERY ROMANCE,
THERE'S ANOTHER BROKEN HEART, RIGHT?
I CAN SEE IT COMING.
THE STORM FRONT OF LOVE APPROACHES!

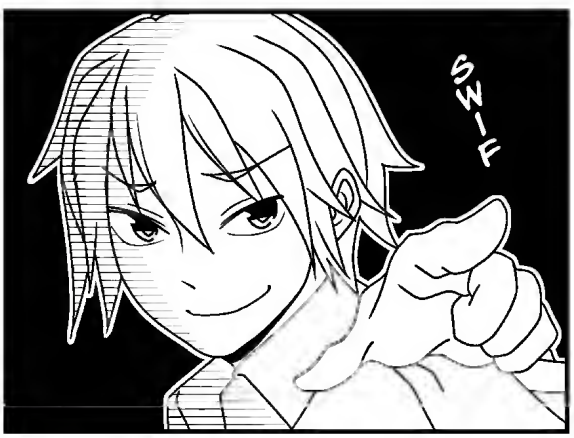

WHWHAT SHOULD I DO?
SHE WON'T EVEN TALK TO ME...
I'M JUST AN IDIOT, SO I'VE GOT NO IDEA!
BEATS ME!

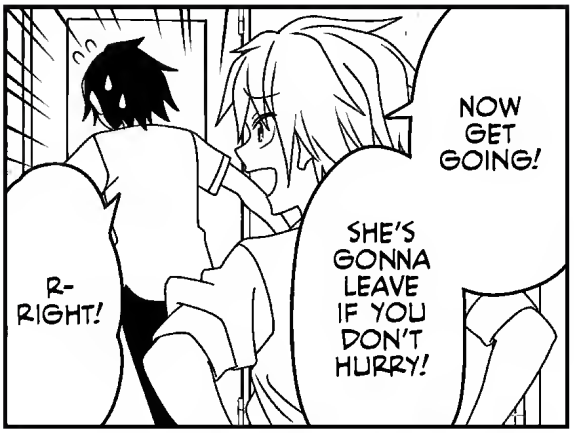

I WOULDN'T BREAK THAT MANY...
I HAVEN'T EVEN GONE OUT WITH...
OR SO YOU THINK, RIGHT?


OTHER THAN...
RUNNING TO HER RIGHT NOW AND TAKING HER INTO YOUR ARMS...
...I'VE GOT NO IDEA!

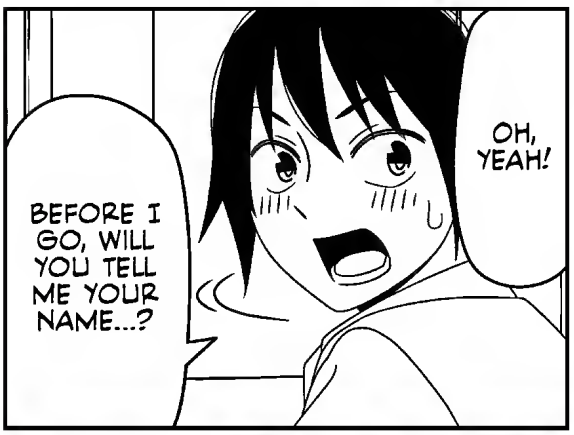
DON'T TELL ME...
YOU, TOO?

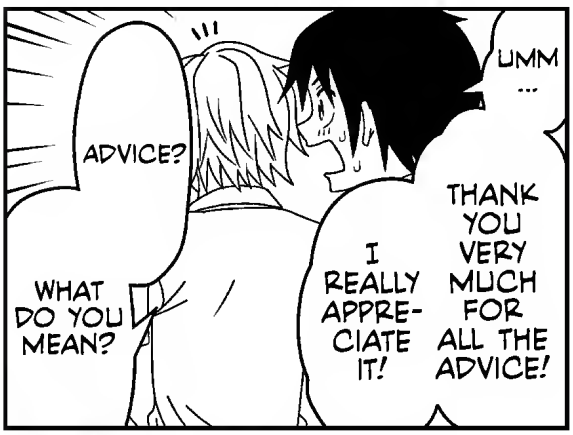
BADUM

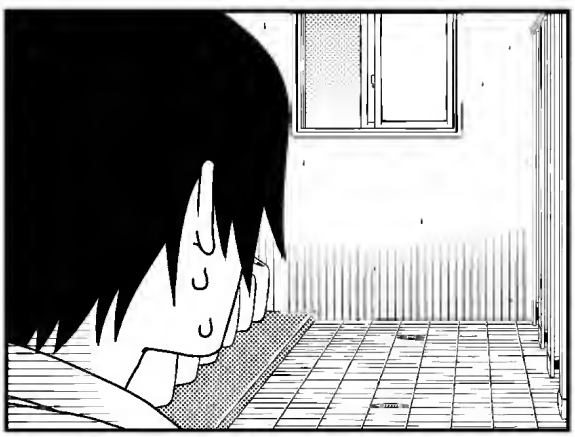

SWIF

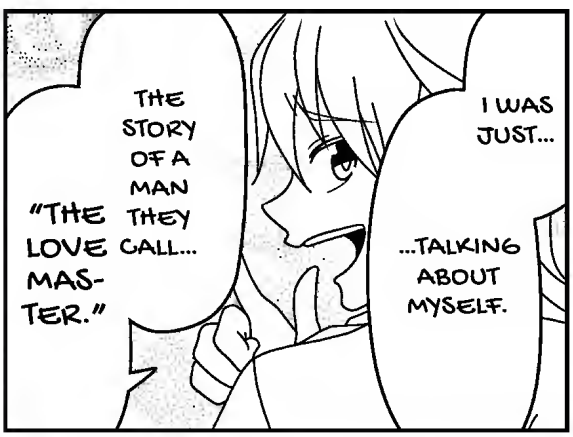

NOW GET GOING!
SHE'S GONNA LEAVE IF YOU DON'T HURRY!
R-RIGHT!

HUH ...
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, I DO FEEL LIKE THAT'S WHAT I SHOULD DO.
THEN I GUESS THAT MEANS YOU SHOULDN'T BE WASTING YOUR TIME HERE,
DON'T YOU AGREE?


OH, YEAH!
BEFORE I GO, WILL YOU TELL ME YOUR NAME...?


UMM ...
THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR ALL THE ADVICE!
I REALLY APPRE-CIATE IT!
ADVICE?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?




I WAS JUST...
...TALKING ABOUT MYSELF.
THE STORY OF A MAN THEY CALL...
"THE LOVE MAS-TER."

SE-
SEM-PAAAI!
END

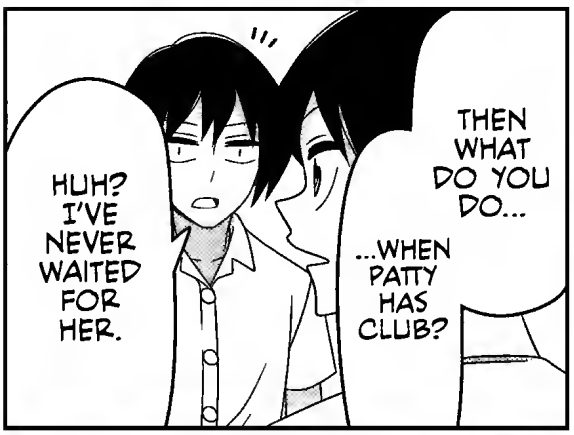
SEM-PAI...!

T S U r e × D U r e

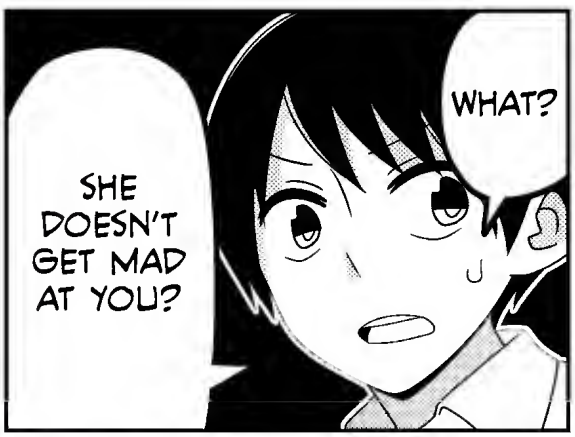
C H I L D R E N

HOW'RE THINGS ON YOUR END, KEISUKE?
SAME AS EVER?
WELL...
IT'S PATTY I'M DEALING WITH, AFTER ALL.

KAMINE,
I HAVE CLUB TODAY, SO...
OKAY! I'LL WAIT FOR YOU.


THEN WHAT DO YOU DO...
...WHEN PATTY HAS CLUB?
HUH? I'VE NEVER WAITED FOR HER.

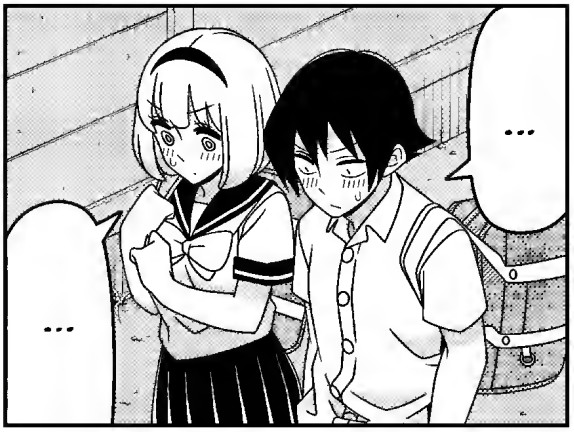
NAH.
YOU DON'T HAVE TEA CEREMONY CLUB TODAY, RIGHT?
I DON'T WANT YOU TO WAIT FOR—
IT'S FINE!

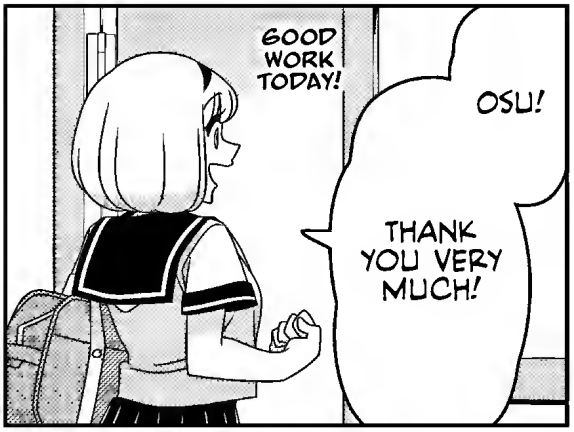

WHAT?
SHE DOESN'T GET MAD AT YOU?

I...
I WANT TO WAIT FOR YOU...

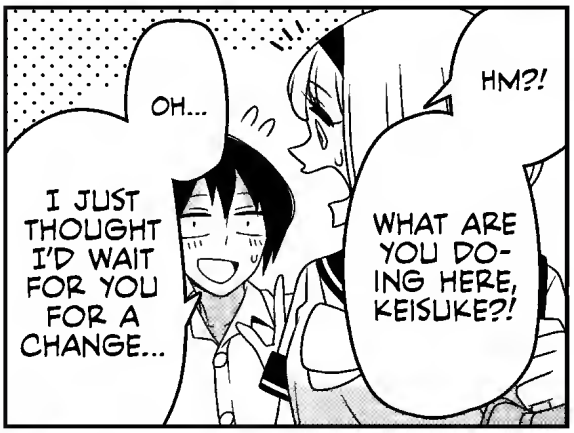
WHAT?
WHY WOULD SHE?

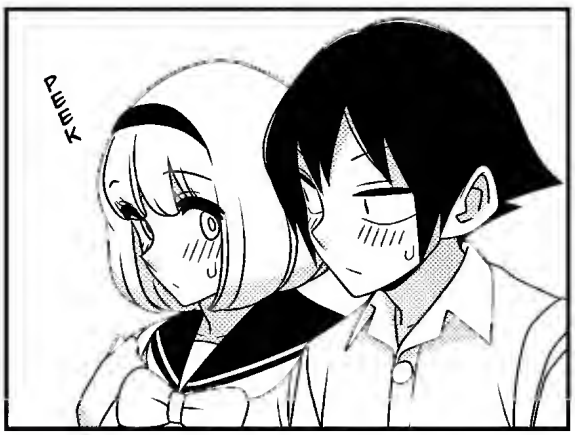
THAT'S QUITE THE SHOW YOU'RE PUTTING ON!


...
...

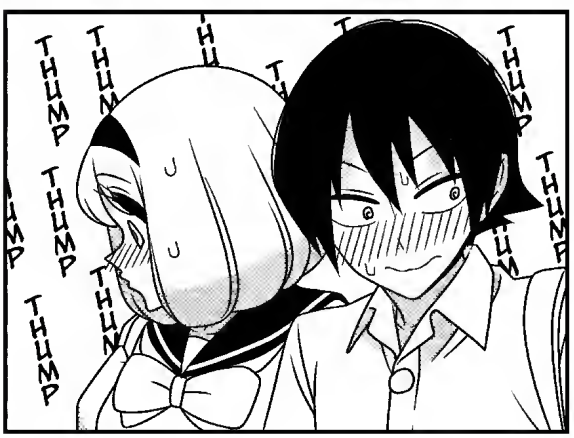

GOOD WORK TODAY!
OSU!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

WEIRD...
...BUT I FEEL NERVOUS TODAY FOR SOME REASON.
WE CAN TALK JUST FINE USUALLY!..

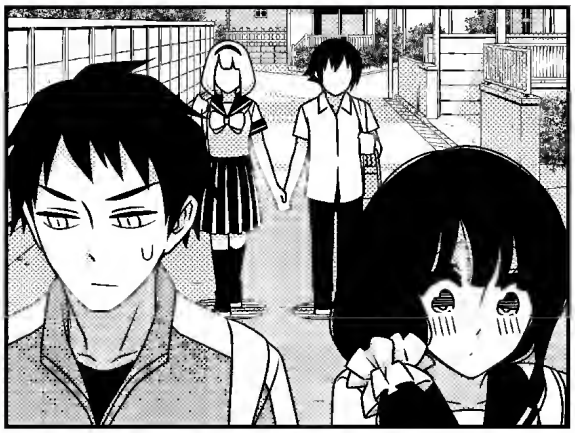

!!!
OH...
I JUST THOUGHT I'D WAIT FOR YOU FOR A CHANGE...
HM?!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, KEISUKE?!

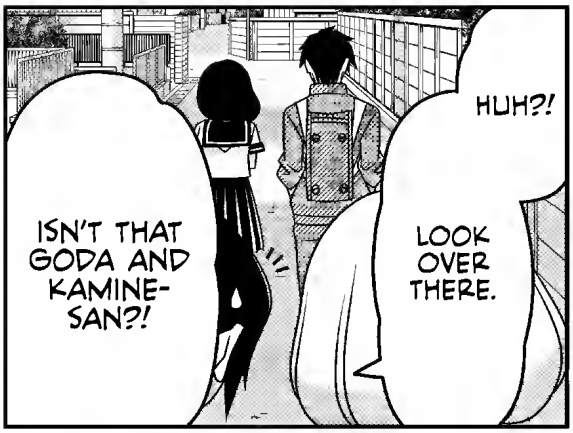

PEEK

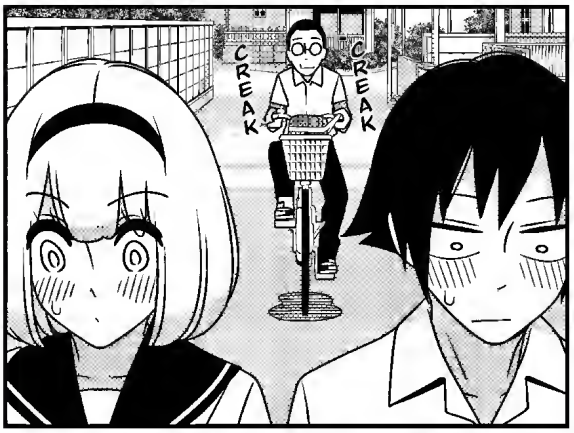
FROWN
...
HUH? WHAT?
SHOULD I HAVE JUST GONE HOME?


THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP

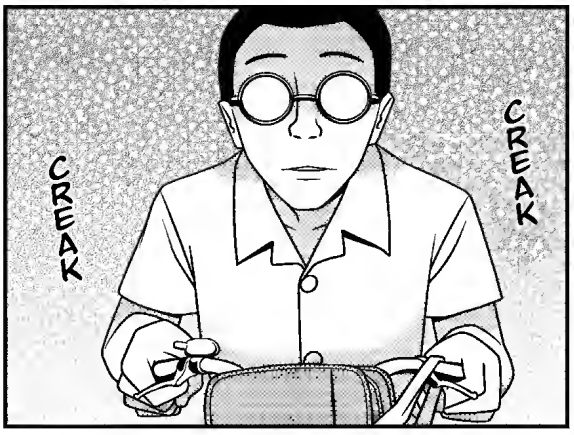
HUH?! WHAT'S WITH THAT?!
WHATEVER...

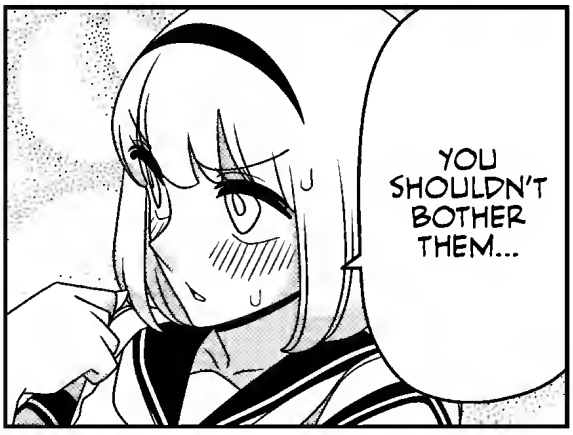


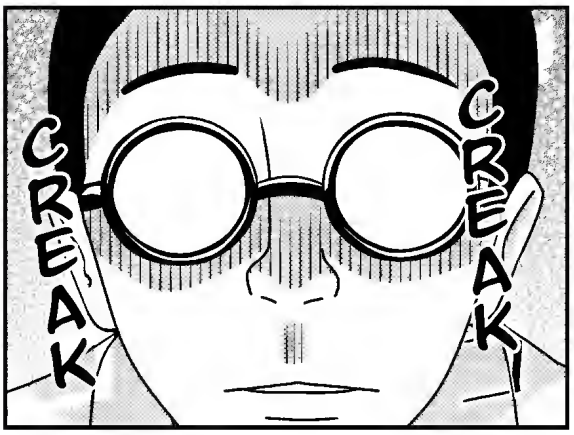

HUH?!
LOOK OVER THERE.
ISN'T THAT GODA AND KAMINE-SAN?!

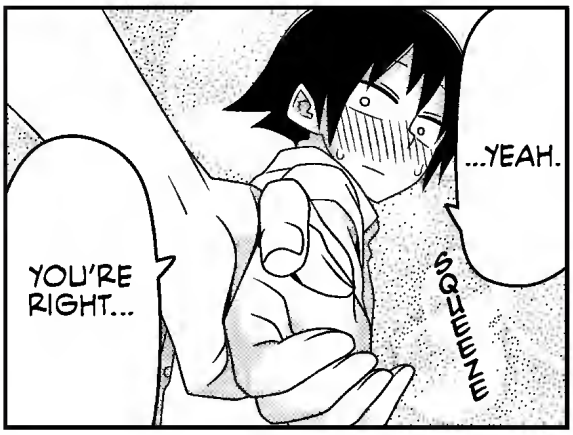

CREAK
CREAK

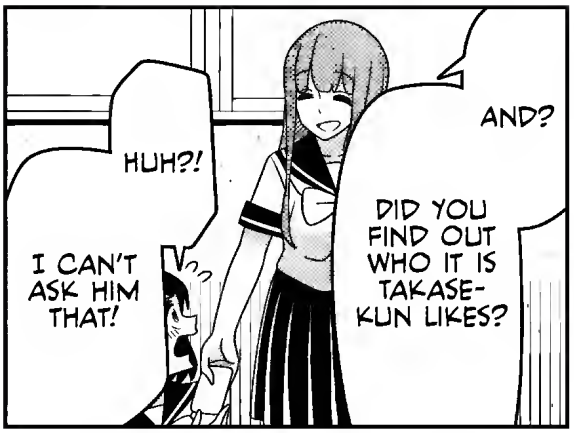
HEEE—
GRAB
KEI-SUKE!


CREAK
CREAK

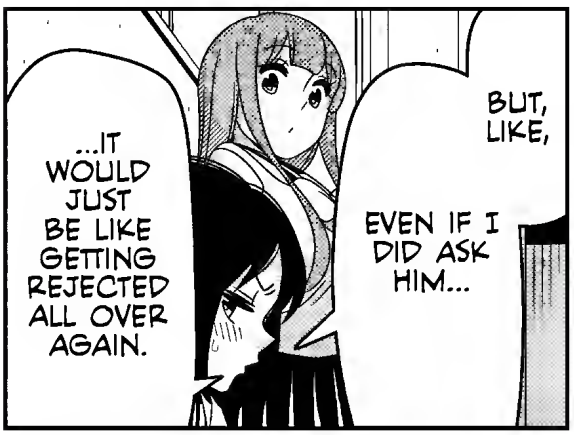

YOU SHOULDN'T BOTHER THEM...

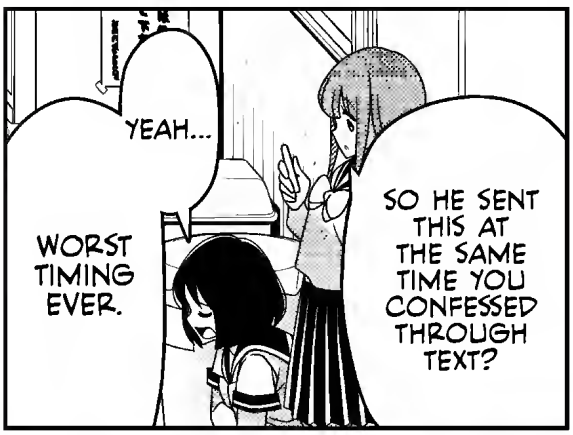

CREAK
CREAK

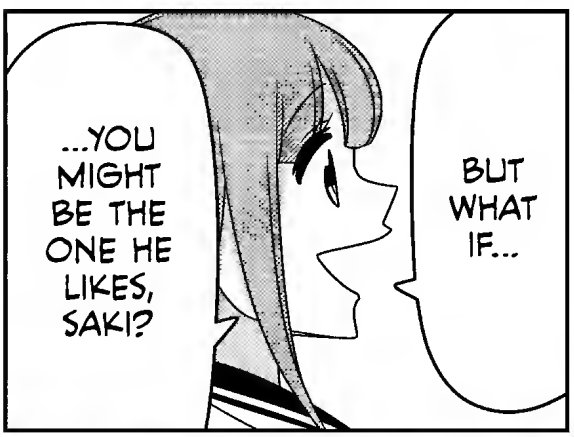

...YEAH.
SQUEEZE
YOU'RE RIGHT...


AND?
DID YOU FIND OUT WHO IT IS TAKASE-KUN LIKES?
HUH?!
I CAN'T ASK HIM THAT!

I'LL TELL YOU AFTER
Y'KNOW, THERE ARE PEOPLE
WHO TRY TO CONFESS THROU
EXTS AND STUFF, BUT DON'T
U THINK THAT SHIT'S THE
RST? LOL
HERE'D THAT COME FRON
GHT?)
M OUT. GOOD
UH-OH...


BUT, LIKE,
EVEN IF I DID ASK HIM...
...IT WOULD JUST BE LIKE GETTING REJECTED ALL OVER AGAIN.

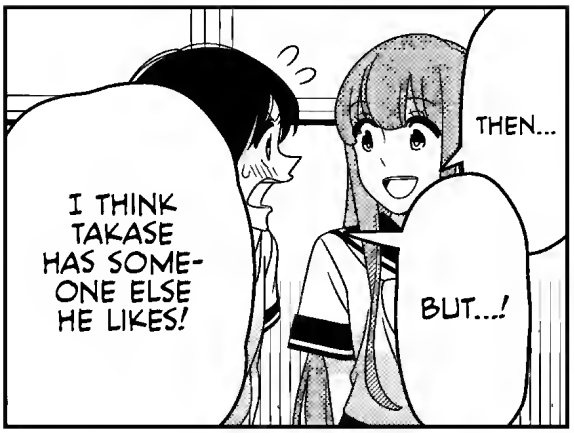

YEAH...
SO HE SENT THIS AT THE SAME TIME YOU CONFESSED THROUGH TEXT?
WORST TIMING EVER.

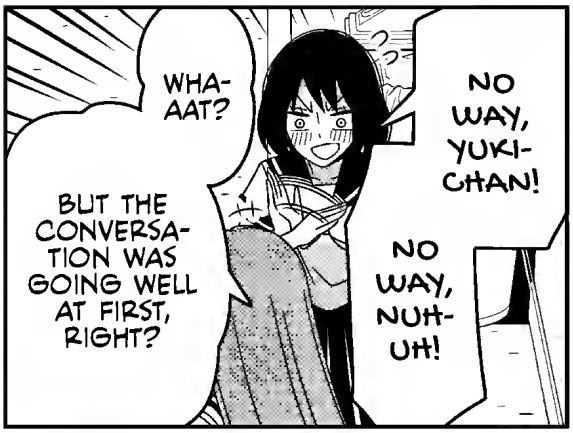

BUT WHAT IF...
...YOU MIGHT BE THE ONE HE LIKES, SAKI?

UGH, I'VE FELT AWKWARD ABOUT TALKING TO HIM ALL DAY. HE TRIED TO TALK TO ME EARLIER, RIGHT? BUT I CAN'T DO IT. NO WAY. HE PROBABLY TOTALLY HATES ME NOW. I SERIOUSLY WISH I COULD JUST DISAPPEAR.

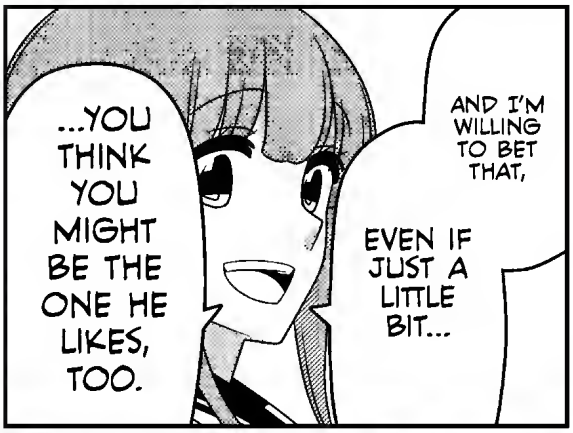
FWP

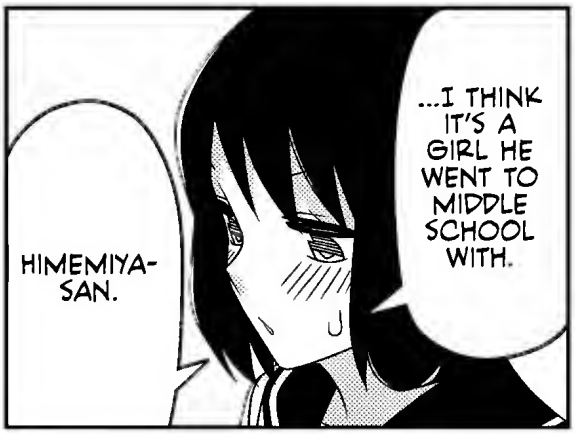
BEAM
BEAM


I THINK TAKASE HAS SOMEONE ELSE HE LIKES!
THEN...
BUT...!

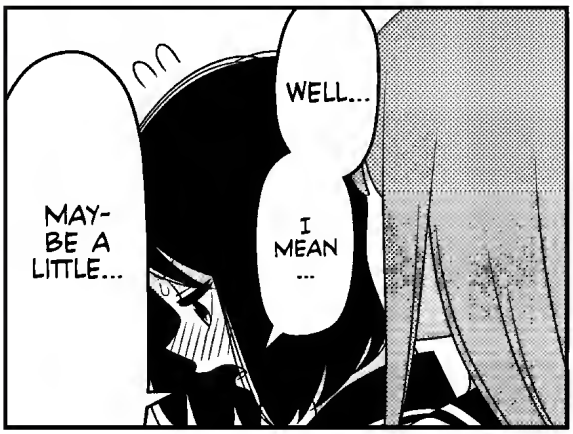

WHAAAT?
BUT THE CONVERSATION WAS GOING WELL AT FIRST, RIGHT?
NO WAY, YUKI-CHAN!
NO WAY, NUH-UH!

I MEAN ...
I'M JUST GUESSING HERE, BUT...
WHAT? WHO?


...YOU THINK YOU MIGHT BE THE ONE HE LIKES, TOO.
AND I'M WILLING TO BET THAT,
EVEN IF JUST A LITTLE BIT...


HIMEMIYA-SAN.
...I THINK IT'S A GIRL HE WENT TO MIDDLE SCHOOL WITH.

HMM?
...

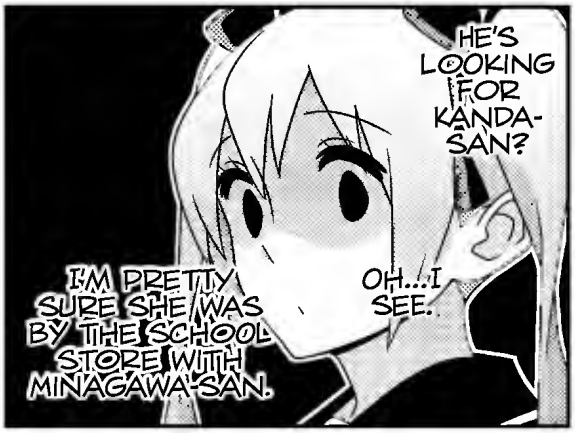

MAY-BE A LITTLE...
I MEAN ...
WELL...

SWIF
AH! HIME-MIYA!
...

WHERE DID KAN-DA GO?
CLASS IS GONNA START SOON.

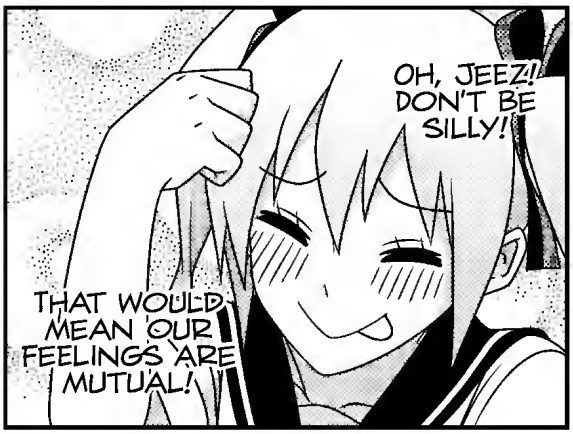
OH, SORRY, BUT...
HAVE YOU SEEN KANDA ANY-WHERE?
HUH?! TAKASE-KUN?!
YOU STARTLED ME! WHAT IS IT?

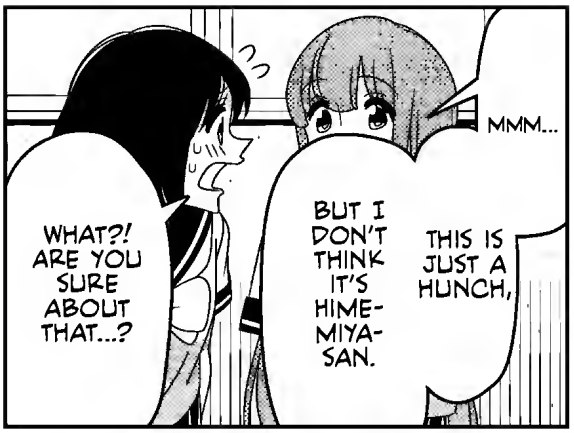
WHISH


HE'S LOOKING FOR KANDA-SAN?
I'M PRETTY SURE SHE WAS BY THE SCHOOL STORE WITH MINAGAWA-SAN.
OH...I SEE.

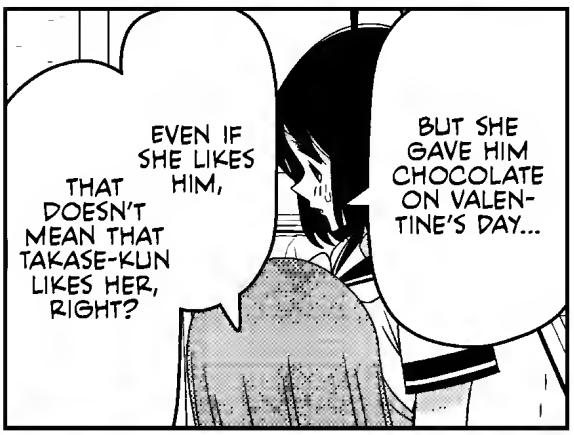
TAKASE-KUN...
COULD IT BE... ME HE'S SEARCH-ING FOR?
HE'S BEEN LOOKING FOR SOMEONE!

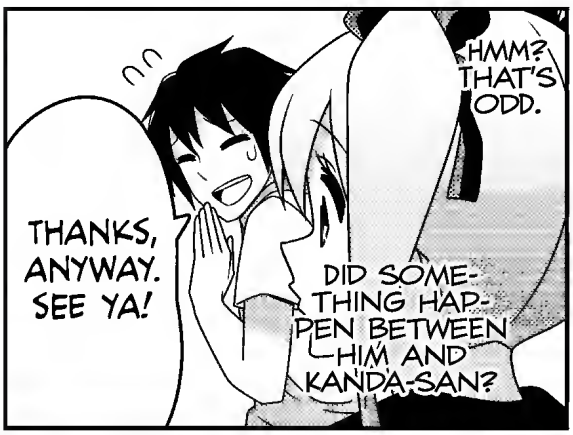
I HA-VEN'T SEEN HER!
NOPE!


OH, JEEZ! DON'T BE SILLY!
THAT WOULD MEAN OUR FEELINGS ARE MUTUAL!


MMM...
THIS IS JUST A HUNCH,
BUT I DON'T THINK IT'S HIME-MIYA-SAN.
WHAT?! ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THAT...?

WHY DON'T YOU TRY TEXTING HER?
SHE, UH...
WON'T ANSWER AT THE MOMENT.


BUT SHE GAVE HIM CHOCOLATE ON VALEN-TINE'S DAY...
EVEN IF SHE LIKES HIM,
THAT DOESN'T MEAN THAT TAKASE-KUN LIKES HER, RIGHT?


HMM? THAT'S ODD.
DID SOME-THING HAP-PEN BETWEEN HIM AND KANDA-SAN?
THANKS, ANYWAY. SEE YA!

YOU THINK SO?
ABSO-LUTELY.

OOH!
MAYBE I DID SEE KANDA-SAN, AFTER ALL!
HUH?!

YOU...
YOU REALLY THINK SO?!

LET'S GO, TAKASE-KUN!
UH...YOU COULD JUST TELL ME WHERE—
HURRY! HURRY!
WHA...

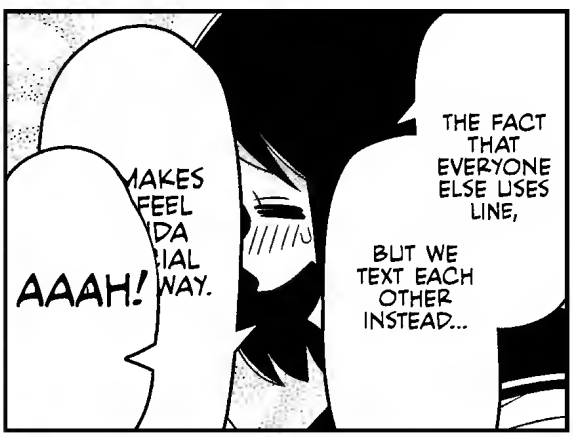
OH, GOOD! SHE'S STILL HERE!
Y-YEAH...
...

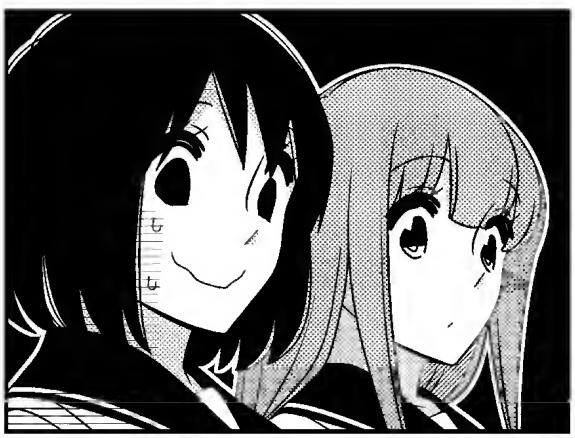
ANYWAY, CLASS IS ABOUT TO START.
WHY DON'T YOU TALK TO TAKASE-KUN LATER?
H-HANG ON! LET ME TEXT HIM FIRST...

OH...! SORRY!
I'M BEING TOO CLINGY, RIGHT?
HUH? ER...

WHY ARE YOU GUYS TEXTING, ANY-WAY?
DOESN'T TAKASE-KUN HAVE A LINE?
OH... THAT'S, UMM...

I'LL JUST TAKE MY LEAVE NOW.
MUTTER MUTTER
S-SURE... THANKS...
WHY ARE YOU WHISPERING?


THE FACT THAT EVERYONE ELSE USES LINE,
BUT WE TEXT EACH OTHER INSTEAD...
AAAH!



Postscript

Tee-hee!

...Anyway, that was Tsurezure Children volume two. Greetings. Creator Toshiya Wakabayashi here. In addition to volume one, thank you very much for picking up volume two. This volume includes the two online chapters I released piecemeal between 2013 and the beginning of 2014, as well as chapters I drew for the magazine serialization. There may have been quite a few chapters that were new to those of you who only read the online version. But those of you who diligently read both online and in the magazine may still feel a little unsatisfied. I apologize if that's the case.

But filling that empty void is exactly what this postscript is for!

Since there are so many characters in this manga, I often get asked the question, "How do you come up with characters?" (_What a delightful question! I almost feel like a real writer!)

The origin of every character is different. For example, Katori-senpai is a character who came to be while I was reading a shojo manga one day and thought, "Why are all hot guys in shojo manga like this? Wouldn't you want to punch this guy in the face if he really existed?" Likewise, Miss Wabisabi is a character I thought up when the phrase "All women wear some sort of mask" popped into my head...is what I wish I could say. But, really, it started with an impure thought like, "So when you wear a mask, right? And you breathe? Y'know how your breath sounds super heavy? So, like, when a girl does that, right? Doesn't it sound sexy as hell?" Plus such musings as, "Masked bands are pretty cool, huh?" Which led to her conception, unfortunately.

There are stories for how all sorts of characters came to be, but there are some among them who just seem to be born out of the blue. I wonder whose child they could be.

Furthermore, I'm also often asked, "Do you include any personal experiences in the manga?"

I'm sorry to say, but it's 99% fantasy. I, too, wanted a girl to tell me she liked me when we were alone in a classroom, or to have a blonde foreign exchange student tell me "sushi" and be tormented by it. But alas, my school life was gray and uneventful. In my case, I was usually turned down when I confessed, or if by some stroke of luck we started going out, the relationship would fall apart without even having done much. I have a hunch that all romance manga authors are writing out their fantasies.

By the way, as for the remaining 1%, that comes from the one golden bit of happiness pulled from the gray ashes of my youth. Basically, one time in high school, a cute girl in my class asked me, "If it's okay with you, can I have your cell phone number?" (See: Reply)

...Too bad I didn't have a cell phone at the time!

Before I knew it, this manga entered summer and everyone switched to their short-sleeved uniforms. It's exciting to think that the sports festival and cultural festival are just around the corner, huh? Personally, I've never had the opportunity to continue a manga for so long, so I'm very excited.

This is all thanks to the support of all my readers.

Thank you very much.

I don't know how to express my gratitude. The reason I became a mangaka in the first place was because I'm not particularly good at conveying things with words, so I can't really think of anything clever to say. That being said, I hope to keep drawing manga that will bring a smile to your faces. I hope you'll join me on the ride.

Until next time,

Toshiya Wakabayashi

character introduction

# Q. "WHAT'S SOMETHING YOU HAVE DIFFICULTY WITH?"

**Saki Kanda**
Class 2-1, Soft Tennis Club

Creepy bugs like cockroaches and spiders...

**Haruhiko Takase**
Class 2-1, Soccer Club

← I'm terrible with cockroaches, too...

**Alice Himemiya**
Class 2-7, Cooking Club

← IN THAT CASE, I'LL MAKE SURE NO BAD *INSECTS* GET NEAR YOU, TAKASE-KUN!

**Yuki Minagawa**
Class 2-1, Class Rep, Soft Tennis Club

Hotaru-chan has trouble with me, right?

**Hotaru Furuya**
Class 1-3

← HUH? NO WAY. I JUST HATE YOU.

**Jun Furuya**
Class 2-1, Class Rep, Broadcasting Club

← THESE TWO BICKERING...

**Shinichi Katori**
Class 3-5, Drama Club President

Hmm... The T☆E☆A☆R☆S of my lovely kittens, I suppose?

**Kazuko Hosokawa**
Class 2-4

← OH, RAIN, PLEASE FALL... IF ONLY TO HIDE MY TEARS FROM HIM...

**Ayane Matsura**
Class 2-4, Drama Club President

← This kind of exchange.

**Ryoko Kaji**
Class 3-8

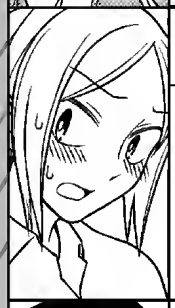
UHH... COOKING, I GUESS?

**Masafumi Akagi**
Class 3-8, Student Council President

← I'll eat anything Ryoko-chan cooks.

**Hideki Yukawa**
College Student, Astronomy Club Alumnus

Loud people.



**Yuuki Kaga**
Class 1-6, Astronomy Club Vice Pres.

... (Nanase)

**Kaoru Nanase**
Class 1-9, Astronomy Club

← YOUR FACE GIVES IT AWAY, Y'KNOW.

**Satsuki Sasahara**
Class 3-2, Astronomy Club President

↑ **WHAT?! WHO DO YOU MEAN, SEMPAI?**

**Kotaro Takase**
Middle School Second-Year

RAINBOW ROAD.

**Haruko Kaga**
Housewife

KEEPING MY SON'S SCRETS.

**Miyoko Nanase**
Housewife

← Oh, Kaga-san! *laugh* Ah! I haven't told anyone anything, okay?

**Kana Iijima**
Class 2-4

I dunno. English, maybe?

**Kaede Uchimura**
College Student

↑ Yeah? I'm good at English, you know.

**Taro Sakamoto**
Class 3-2 Homeroom Teacher, Social Studies

I MAKE KIDS CRY A LOT.

**Takeru Goda**
Class 2-4, Volleyball Club

GIRLS.

**Shinji Ubukata**
Class 3-2, Light Music Club President

Chicks who don't listen.

**Miss Wabisabi**
Class ?-?, Light Music Club

↑ WHOMEVER DO YOU MEAN?

**Chiaki Uchimura**
Class 2-4

← Why don't you ask Patricia to teach you?

**Keiko Uchimura**
Housewife

← That's right, Kana-chan! Come back soon, okay?

**Yoichi Kirihara**
Class 2-7 Homeroom Teacher, English Teacher

← It's because your face is so scary, Sakamoto-sensei! *laugh*

**Ayaka Kamine**
Class 2-4, Tea Ceremony Club

← ...
(Am I...going to be okay?)

**Satoshi Uehara**
Class 3-2, Light Music Club Vice President

It sure is fun watching those two, huh? →

**Kyoko Sano**
Class 3-8, Tea Ceremony Club Vice President

↑ LET ME KNOW THE NEXT TIME YOU GUYS DO.

**Patricia Caulifield**
Class 2-4, Karate Club

← LEAVE IT TO ME!

**Keisuke Tsuji**
Class 2-4

↑ ...Uh, you sure that's a good idea?

**Sayaka Chiba**
Class 2-7, Library Aide

← AND THE STUDENTS PUSH YOU AROUND, KIRIHARA-SENSEI.

**Erika Shibasaki**
Class 3-8, Tea Ceremony Club President

I-I'M BAD WITH LOUD MUSIC LIKE ROCK!

**Junpei Hattori**
Class 3-2, Light Music Club

← I want to leave them alone together more often from now on.

**Hiromi Manabe**
Class 3-2, Brass Club

← DOES THE LIGHT MUSIC CLUB ACTUALLY PRACTICE?

TSURE×DURE CHILDREN

A FRIEND FROM CLASS CAUGHT ME GOING HOME WITH MY BOYFRIEND.

PLEASE, CHII-CHAN!
KEEP THIS A SECRET, OKAY?
DON'T TELL ANYONE WE'RE DATING...

WHAT?
YOU MEAN YOU DON'T JUST HAP-PEN TO GO HOME THE SAME WAY?

SHAKE
SHAKE

**Tsuredure Children 2**

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

Tsuredure Children volume 2 copyright © 2014 Toshiya Wakabayashi
English translation copyright © 2017 Toshiya Wakabayashi

All rights reserved.

First published in Japan in 2014 by Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.
Electronic Publishing rights for this English edition arranged through Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.

No portion of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means without written permission from the copyright holders.

English digital edition published by Kodansha Advanced Media, LLC, San Francisco.

www.kodanshacomics.com

ISBN: 9781682337523

Digital Edition: 1.0.0

Translation by Adam Hirsch
Lettering by Jan Lan Ivan Concepcion
Editing by Jesika Brooks
YKS Services LLC/SKY Japan, INC.